

Promises

NANCY BENAC

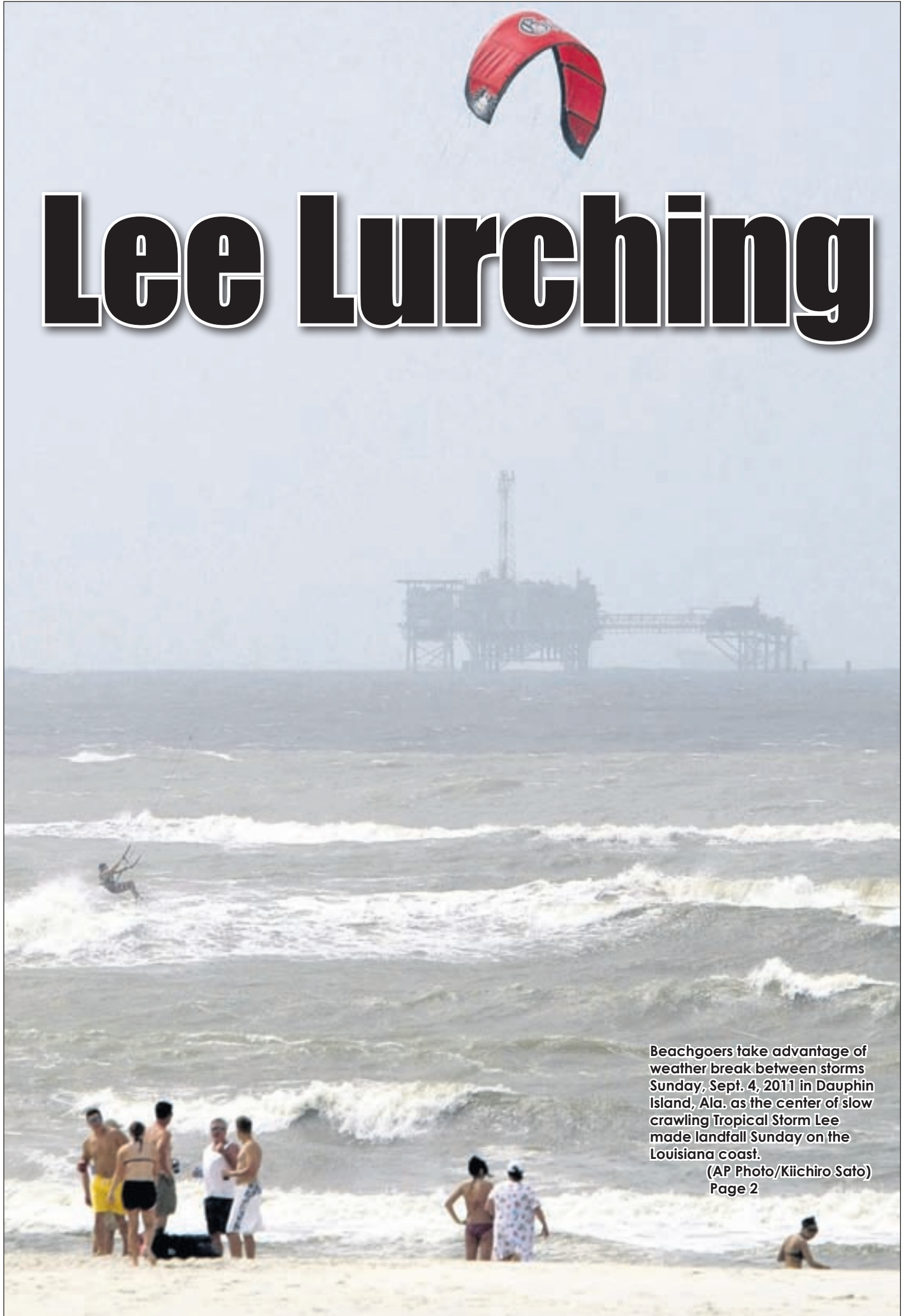
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — We are safer, but not safe enough. In the decade since the Sept. 11 attacks, the government has taken giant steps to protect the nation from terrorists, spending eye-popping sums to smarten up the federal bureaucracy, hunt down enemies, strengthen airline security, secure U.S. borders, reshape America's image and more. Still, the effort remains a work in progress, and in some cases a work stalled. Whole alphabets of acronyms have been born and died in pursuit of homeland security, a phrase that wasn't even used much before 9/11. Hello, TSA, DNI, DHS, NCTC, CVE, NSI and ICE. Goodbye, TTIC, INS and more. How quaint that travelers used to be asked a few questions about whether they'd packed their own bags. Now, people routinely strip off their belts and shoes, dump their gels in small plastic bags, power up their laptops to prove they aren't bombs and submit to full body scans and pat downs once reserved for suspected criminals. We have gone from "Let's roll" to "Don't touch my junk."

The bipartisan Sept. 11 Commission in 2004 laid out a 585-page road map to create an America that is "safer, stronger, wiser." Many of the commission's recommendations are now reality. But in some cases, results haven't lived up to expectations. Other proposals are just that, ideas awaiting action. "What I've come to appreciate is there's no magic wand on some of these things," says Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, who says that progress overall has been significant.

Continued on next Page

Lee Lurching



Beachgoers take advantage of weather break between storms Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011 in Dauphin Island, Ala. as the center of slow crawling Tropical Storm Lee made landfall Sunday on the Louisiana coast.

(AP Photo/Kiichiro Sato)
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Tropical Storm Lee lurches ashore in Louisiana

Continued from Front



Braie LaSalle, 10, walks down East Hickman Street in Delcambre, La., Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011, while other kids play in the background. Water from Tropical Storm Lee's storm surge flooded the neighborhood roadways Sunday morning. No homes appeared to have sustained water damage as of noon Sunday.

(AP Photo/The Daily Advertiser, Leslie Westbrook)

MARY FOSTER
Associated Press

SAUCIER, Mississippi (AP) — Tropical Storm Lee dumped more than a foot (30 centimeters) of rain in New Orleans and spun off tornadoes elsewhere Sunday as its center came ashore in a slow crawl north that raised fears of inland flash flooding in the Deep South and beyond. Areas of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi near the coast reported scattered wind damage and flooding, but evacuations appeared to be in the hundreds rather than the thousands and New Orleans' levees were doing their job just over six years after Hurricane Katrina swamped the city. National Hurricane Center specialist Robbie Berg said Lee's flash flood threat could be more severe as the rain moves from the flatter Gulf region into the rugged Appalachians. Vermont is still cleaning up

and digging out dozens of communities that were damaged and isolated last week when heavy rain from Tropical Storm Irene quickly flooded mountain rivers. No deaths had been directly attributed to Tropical Storm Lee, though a body boarder in Galveston, Texas, drowned after being pulled out to sea in heavy surf churned up by Lee. A man in Mississippi suffered non-life-threatening injuries when authorities said he was struck by lightning that traveled through a phone line. The vast, soggy system spent hours during the weekend hovering in the northernmost Gulf of Mexico before its center finally crossed into Louisiana west of New Orleans, pelting a wide swath of coastline. On Sunday night, the National Hurricane Center said Lee had maximum sustained winds of 40 mph (65 kph). □

Promises, promises:

US safer, but not safe enough

Continued from Front

But remember how some of the police and firefighters who rushed to the twin towers in New York couldn't talk to one other because their radios weren't in sync? There's still no nationwide communications network for disasters, as the commission envisioned, although individual cities have made progress. It's understandable if you've never heard of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, created to ensure that the government doesn't go overboard with new terrorism-fighting powers bestowed by the Patriot Act and other counterterrorism measures. The board has no members, no staff, no office. Despite a top-to-bottom reorganization of the country's intelligence superstructure, it's still a challenge for analysts to tease out the critical clues needed to prevent an attack. On Christmas Day 2009, lots of people in government had information about a Nigerian man whose behavior was raising red flags. But because no one had pieced all the information together, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab managed to stroll on to a plane headed for Detroit with a bomb in his underwear. Only his failure to detonate the explosives properly saved the people on that plane.

Lee Hamilton, a co-chairman of the Sept. 11 commission, says it's probably a combination of hard work and good luck that's kept



Airline passengers go through the Transportation Security Administration security checkpoint at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta. We are safer, but not safe enough. In the decade since the 9/11 attacks, the government has taken giant steps to protect the nation from terrorists, spending eye-popping sums to smarten up the federal bureaucracy, hunt down enemies, strengthen airline security, secure U.S. borders, reshape America's image and more. But the effort remains a work in progress, and in some cases a work stalled. The bipartisan 9/11 Commission in 2004 laid out a 585-page road map to create an America that is "safer, stronger, wiser." Many of the commission's recommendations are now reality. But in some cases, results haven't lived up to expectations. And other proposals still are just that, ideas awaiting action.

(AP Photo/Erik S. Lesser, File)

the U.S. from experiencing another all-out terrorist attack. But he worries that success is breeding complacency. "The lack of urgency concerns me," Hamilton says. "The likelihood is that sometime in the future, we will be attacked again." A look at some of the 9/11

commission's recommendations, and the results: **RECOMMENDATION:** Tighter security checks on all airline passengers. The Transportation Security Administration and Congress "must give priority attention to improving the ability of screening checkpoints to detect explosives on passengers." □

Hopes rising, GOP voters seek bold conservative president

ASHLEY PARKER

JEFF ZELENY

© 2011 New York Times

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Roy Barbuto is on the hunt. For the past few months, he has been searching for the perfect Republican candidate, and he shows no signs of flagging.

Barbuto, 61, a service technician here, had already seen Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota ("She was excellent"), the former pizza executive Herman Cain ("He intrigues me, because here is a man who clearly knows what to do businesswise"), and the former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney ("If he was elected, he could cer-

tainly do the job"). Now, he was finishing up dinner at a house party in Chichester, N.H., waiting to take a measure of Gov. Rick Perry of Texas.

"I'm not just looking for a candidate to beat the president," he explained. "For me, the purpose of the next president is to restore the pride that this country has always had."

In interviews with more than two dozen people in New Hampshire and Iowa over Labor Day weekend, Republicans sensed a new vulnerability to President Barack Obama. But while they expressed a strong sense of optimism in the prospect of winning the



Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, a Republican presidential candidate, signs the shirt of Mike Freese, of St. Petersburg, Fla., as he greets staff and supporters at his new campaign headquarters in downtown Tampa, Fla., Sept. 2, 2011. Despite the consternation among some party leaders about the strength of the field of Republican candidates, conversations with Republicans and independent voters revealed a sense of satisfaction at their array of choices.

(Chip Litherland/The New York Times)

well be electable."

With an important Republican debate looming this Wednesday, what is apparent among those who have followed the early stages of the primary campaign closely is the strong level of energy and enthusiasm about the Republican candidates and of voters' dismay at the direction of the country.

"With everything that's gone wrong so far in this country, it sure gives a Republican a better shot at getting this fellow out of office," said Hank Marion, 69, a retired independent from Manchester. "I'm looking for someone who can create jobs."

Again and again, Republicans said they were looking for a candidate with strong leadership skills, someone who could speak up and restore the nation's standing in the world — a clear contrast to Obama, whom they perceive as being weak and ineffectual.

"We have a leader right now who isn't really a leader," said Fred Bestwick, 66, a retired federal government employee who lives in Chichester and had just watched Perry speak at a house party. □

Postal Service struggles to stay solvent and relevant

STEVEN GREENHOUSE

© 2011 New York Times

The U.S. Postal Service has long lived on the financial edge, but it has never been as close to the precipice as it is today: the agency is so low on cash that it will not be able to make a \$5.5 billion payment due this month and may have to shut down entirely this winter unless Congress takes emergency action to stabilize its finances.

"Our situation is extremely serious," the postmaster general, Patrick R. Donahoe, said in an interview. "If Congress doesn't act, we will default." In recent weeks, Donahoe has been pushing a series of painful cost-cutting measures to erase the agency's deficit, which will reach \$9.2 billion this fiscal year. They include eliminating Saturday mail delivery, closing up to 3,700 postal locations and laying off 120,000 workers, nearly one-fifth of the agency's work force. The post office's problems stem from one hard reality: it is getting squeezed on both revenue and costs. As any computer user knows, the Internet revolution has led to people and businesses sending far less conventional mail.

At the same time, decades of contractual promises made to unionized workers, including no-layoff clauses, are increasing the post office's costs. Labor



Cliff Guffey, president of the American Postal Workers Union, and Fredric Rolando, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, in a post office in Washington, Sept. 2, 2011. The U.S. Postal Service is so low on cash that it will not be able to make a \$5.5 billion payment due this month and may have to shut down entirely this winter unless Congress takes emergency action to stabilize its finances.

(Daniel Rosenbaum/The New York Times)

represents 80 percent of the agency's expenses, compared with 53 percent at United Parcel Service and 32 percent at FedEx, its two biggest private competitors. Postal workers also receive more generous health benefits than most other federal employees. The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee will hold a hearing on the agency's predicament on Tuesday. So far, feuding Democrats and Republicans in Congress, still smarting from the brawl over the federal debt ceiling, have failed to agree on any solutions. It doesn't help that many of the options for saving the postal service are politically unpalatable.

"The situation is dire," said

Thomas R. Carper, the Delaware Democrat who is chairman of the Senate subcommittee that oversees the postal service. "If we do nothing, if we don't react in a smart, appropriate way, the postal service could literally close later this year. That's not the kind of development we need to inject into a weak, uneven economic recovery."

Missing the \$5.5 billion payment due on Sept. 30, intended to finance retirees' future health care, won't cause immediate disaster. But sometime early next year, the agency will run out of money to pay its employees and gas up its trucks, officials warn, forcing it to stop delivering the roughly 3 billion pieces of mail it handles weekly. □

White House, they were looking for a candidate who could not only prevail in a general election, but be a forceful conservative leader for a tumultuous time. "I'd like somebody who is really conservative, but can they beat Obama?" asked Earl Rinker, 76, of Manchester, as he waited for a Perry event to begin. "I do think that because of the nature of the economy and what's going on, a more conservative candidate may still

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Media outlets walk fine line in 9/11 anniversary coverage

Jeremy W. Peters

Brian Stelter

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Anniversaries are hard to resist for most media outlets. The stories are evergreen, the advertising potential plentiful.

But in documenting the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, there is a fine line between commemoration and exploitation.

Mindful of this, television networks, magazines and others planning special coverage of the anniversary have weighed issues like how much American audiences can stomach, and how much such a solemn occasion should be viewed as a business opportunity.

There are no uniform answers, and media outlets are approaching it differently. Time magazine is running no ads at all. Newsweek and People have sold ads just as they would for any other issue. And cable channels, which are devoting big blocks of their schedules to Sept. 11-related programming, are also largely running commercials as usual. But there are exceptions; CNN, for example, is to air a joint HBO-Time special commercial free. In its regular Sunday edition on Sept. 11, The New York Times is publishing a special

section that will contain only commemorative ads. "There's no precedent for something like this," said Lawrence C. Burstein, the publisher of New York magazine, who added that he initially did not expect to sell many ads in the 10th

with the Sept. 13 issue last year. He and the New York sales and editorial team decided to forgo the typical promotional campaign employed for special issues and gave advertisers who had already bought space

There are few publications or television channels that are not tackling the issue. The Military Channel will explore why the Pentagon sustained far less damage than the Twin Towers. Univision is showing a week of special programming,

materials.

Showtime will broadcast "The Love We Make," about Paul McCartney's efforts to organize a benefit concert. CNN is planning four separate documentaries. Fox News is showing a documentary about the construction of the Freedom Tower.

The National Geographic Channel, which is partly owned by The News Corporation, secured one of the biggest coups of the season – its exclusive interview with George W. Bush, who was the president when the attacks occurred. It wanted to get ahead of the avalanche of coverage and decided to show the interview on Aug. 28.

The interview, heavily promoted on other News Corp. channels including Fox News, was secured with the help of a producer, Peter Schnall, who spearheaded a number of behind-the-scenes programs about the White House while Bush was in office.

By pure chance, the scheduled two-day interview began the day after American forces killed Osama bin Laden in Pakistan. Michael Cascio, the senior vice president of production for the National Geographic Channel, said Bush and his associates had placed no restrictions on the interview. □



From left: Madison Burnett, Anna-Clare Burnett, Halley Burnett, in a scene of the piece "Children of 9/11," in an undated handout screengrab. When it comes to documenting the tenth anniversary of the September 11th attacks, there is a fine line between commemorative and exploitative, mindful of this, each media outlet is approaching it differently.

anniversary issue. But to his surprise, he found that advertiser demand was strong, with the magazine experiencing a 46 percent increase in the number of ad pages in the Sept. 5-12 double issue, compared

in the magazine the option of bowing out.

"It is something that touches people in all kinds of different personal ways," Burstein said, "and I felt like it was a decision that the advertiser had to make."

(NBC via The New York Times)

including live coverage from ground zero on Sept. 9. Animal Planet will run a special episode of the series "Saved," about survivors of the attacks whose "unique bonds with their pets helped them deal with loss and cope through pain," according to the show's promotional

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'Buy American' not so simple with housing

KIRK JOHNSON

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BOZEMAN, Mont. – Anders Lewendal, a general contractor who managed to

doomed to stay on the dock or in the showroom. And all that does not even address whether using illegal immigrant labor, a

Lewendal said that because the 2,280-square-foot, three-bedroom house he is building will conform to high energy-conservation

Bozeman's economy was not devastated across the board by the recession. Montana State University, a big local employer, created a base of stability, and the proximity to Yellowstone, about 90 minutes south, kept up a flow of tourists. But where bad times bit, they bit hard, and that was in construction. The vacation- and second-home market that plumbers, roofers and framers depended on dwindled to almost nothing starting in 2007, taking out more than a third of all the construction work here in Gallatin County in just 24 months, according to state figures.

Justin Tribbitt, a former general contractor now working in computer software,

lost his company; three of his five former employees left town. Mike Wilhelm, an electrician, went from six employees to two. Rock Larocca, also a contractor, survived with the aid of a chainsaw, helping cut down trees killed by a beetle infestation. "It's kind of like getting a drink out of the garden hose and suddenly the valve shuts off and it's dry," said Tribbitt, 32. "It was gone just like that." Some who managed to hang on during the recession said that whether the all-American home idea is good marketing for Lewendal Construction or good economics for the country, or both, it feels right to them. Lewendal, admirers said, is taking action. □



Kat Quinn outside of her home, being built by Anders Lewendal in Bozeman, Mont., Sept. 1, 2011. Lewendal thinks he has hit upon a plan to boost the American construction industry and lead the nation out of the economic wilderness: build homes using only American-made materials.

(Rich Addicks/The New York Times)

survive the housing collapse, has hit upon a plan that he thinks will revive the construction industry and help lead the nation out of the economic wilderness: Build houses using only American-made materials. He is trying to do just that with a new home here on a side street a few blocks from downtown. But it is not as easy as it sounds.

Some things are simple enough. Wood literally grows on trees, of course, especially here in forested western Montana. And no one ships cement or concrete mix any farther than needed.

After that it can get tough. In a global economy, even U.S.-assembled appliances probably have at least some foreign made or mined components, Lewendal said.

Tiny components like nails, screws and lightbulbs, mundane but crucial, are significantly cheaper if bought from China or other developing nations. High-end frills – which tend to be imported, like Italian marble or mahogany – may be

mainstay of the construction industry around the nation, counts as foreign.

"Part of the impact of the recession has been healthy, in making people rethink what housing is for," said Lewendal, who conceded that perfection in his goal is probably not possible. The locally-made cement, he suspects, could have some imported chemicals, for example, and the recycled glass from Yellowstone National Park that he laid down as a base layer under the garage could well have contained an imported beer bottle or two. As for his workers, he said, they are all here legally. "The point is that little things can add up," he said. "I think we could solve this recession if everyone shifted just 5 percent of their purchases to U.S.-made products."

In some ways, it is an old idea, echoing a hard-hat refrain from the 1970s or earlier: Buy American. In other ways, though, it is as current as the environmental message that hangs over every urban farmers' market: Buy Local.

standards – more points are awarded for materials obtained close to the site – the economic and social implications all blur. And in a brutally competitive local market, he added, pitching all-American could also be a marketing niche in tune with the times.

"I don't see any politics to it at all," said Lewendal, 51, who described himself as a conservative and is the chairman of the local homebuilder association's green building committee. "It's about jobs."

The house's owner, Kat Quinn, also has a complex agenda. For health reasons, she wanted a house built to strict environmental standards, and after she met Lewendal and heard about the all-American home idea, she became convinced that buying American could put pressure on foreign companies to raise wages for their workers. She said she does plan, though, on having a Canadian-made trampoline in the house, to use in therapy for a daughter with cystic fibrosis.

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Bloomberg won't apologize for hiding arrest of deputy mayor

MOSI SECRET

MICHAEL BARBARO

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NEW YORK — Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg acknowledged Sunday that he concealed the arrest of former deputy mayor Stephen Goldsmith, but steadfastly refused to apologize for his actions, even as Goldsmith said he regretted keeping it hidden. Speaking outside a church in Brooklyn, the mayor rejected the notion that he had an obligation to tell the public of the arrest, saying, "I always assumed it would come out, but it's not my responsibility."

The deputy mayor, Stephen Goldsmith, had been arrested in Washington on July 30 after an altercation with his wife at their home there. Goldsmith, 64, told the mayor of the arrest, and he resigned a few days later. Bloomberg said once Goldsmith told him of the



New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg speaks at a news conference regarding the arrest of former deputy mayor Stephen Goldsmith, outside the Christian Cultural Center in New York, Sept. 4, 2011. Bloomberg rejected the notion that he had an obligation to tell the public about Goldsmith's arrest in Washington on July 30 after an altercation with his wife at their home.

(Michael Appleton/The New York Times)

arrest, he knew that the deputy mayor must resign. But he added that he felt no need to further embarrass the family by making the arrest public. "My first obligation is to make sure he no longer continues to work for the city," the mayor

said Sunday. The next obligation, he added, was to "treat him and his family with as much respect as we can and not make their tragic situation any worse." Goldsmith, in an email to The New York Times, said it was his responsibility to

reveal the arrest.

"As a former employee, I, not the mayor, should have more fully disclosed the reasons for my resignation. I thought the immediacy of my resignation mooted the need for further explanation. I was wrong." He added, "The lack of a fuller disclosure I now regret as I regret the loss of my public service career and the intrusion my children have experienced." Goldsmith was charged with simple assault domestic violence; prosecutors were not pursuing the case because his wife had wanted the charges dropped.

This was Bloomberg's first remarks on the controversy since it was revealed Thursday that the mayor had misled the public as to why Goldsmith resigned; at the time, the mayor had said only that Goldsmith was "leaving to pursue

private-sector opportunities in infrastructure finance."

The mayor's refusal to apologize was harshly criticized by Scott M. Stringer, the Manhattan borough president, who earlier had characterized Bloomberg's lack of disclosure as "absolutely unacceptable."

"Unfortunately, the mayor has this backwards: His first obligation is to protect the public, not to protect a staff member," Stringer said in a statement. "The City Council should hold hearings, so we can get a full accounting of the facts in this matter." Under New York City law, the city's Department of Investigation must be notified whenever a city official is arrested in New York; in this case, Bloomberg was not required to do so because Goldsmith was arrested in Washington. The mayor's decision was striking, especially given his efforts to reduce domestic violence and make government more transparent.

Interviews suggest that Bloomberg played a pivotal role in deciding to keep the arrest from the public: Soon after Goldsmith informed City Hall of the altercation with his wife, aides to the mayor engaged in a spirited debate over how to handle the matter, according to people told of the talks. Bloomberg was adamant that Goldsmith be allowed to disclose as much or as little as he wished about the arrest. Goldsmith chose to keep it secret, and Bloomberg acceded, these people said, to the consternation of some advisers. □

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Can environmental regulations put businesses in the red?



Spencer Weitman, president of National Cement Company, in front of the kiln at the company's plant in Ragland, Ala., Sept. 1, 2011. The company has suspended a project costing nearly \$350 million to build a new kiln because, it says, it cannot figure out which of three proposed standards by the Environmental Protection Agency it must meet.

(Gary Tramontina/The New York Times)

MOTOKO RICH
JOHN M. BRODER
© 2011 New York Times

Do environmental regulations kill jobs?

Republicans and business groups say yes, arguing that environmental protection is simply too expensive for a battered economy. They were quick to claim victory Friday after the Obama administration abandoned stricter ozone pollution standards.

Most economists agree that regulation comes with undeniable costs that can affect workers. Factories may close because of the high cost of cleanup, or owners may relocate to countries with weaker regulations. But many experts say the effects should be assessed through a nuanced tally of costs and benefits that takes into account both economic and societal factors. Some argue that the costs can be offset as companies develop cheaper

ways to clean up pollutants, and others say regulation is often blamed for job losses that occur for different reasons, like a stagnant economy. As companies develop new technologies to cope with regulatory requirements, some new jobs are created.

What's more, some economists say, previous regulations, like the various amendments to the Clean Air Act, have resulted in far lower costs and job losses than industrial executives initially feared.

For example, when the Environmental Protection Agency first proposed amendments to the Clean Air Act aimed at reducing acid rain caused by power plant emissions, the electric utility industry warned that it would cost \$7.5 billion and tens of thousands of jobs. But the cost of the program has been closer to \$1 billion, said Dallas Burtraw, an economist at Resources for

the Future, a nonprofit research group on the environment. And the EPA in a paper published this year cited studies showing that the law had been a modest net creator of jobs through industry spending on technology to comply with it.

The question of just how much environmental regulation hurts jobs is a particularly sensitive one as leaders in Washington debate the best ways to address the nation's stubbornly high unemployment rate. As President Barack Obama prepares for an important speech Thursday focusing

on job creation, Republicans are pushing for a rollback in environmental regulations that they say saddle companies with onerous costs that curtail jobs without leading to significant improvement in environmental or public health.

Part of the problem in evaluating the costs of regulation is that there have been few systematic studies of such costs after regulations are imposed.

"Regulations are put on the books and largely stay there unexamined," said Michael Greenstone, an

economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "This is part of the reason that these debates about regulations have a groundhog's day quality to them." Greenstone has conducted one of the few studies that actually measure job losses related to environmental rules. In researching the amendments to the Clean Air Act that affected polluting plants from 1972 and 1987, he found that those companies lost almost 600,000 jobs compared with what would have happened without the regulations. □



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Poles march in protest of anti-Semitism, racism



City authorities and lawmakers, left, leading a march to protest recent local anti-Semitic and racist attacks, in Bialystok, Poland Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011. A group of young men chanting nationalist slogans, right, was trying to disturb the march that was held in condemnation of, among other things, the desecration of a monument to hundreds of Jews burned alive by their Polish neighbors during World War II.

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — More than 100 people marched in a Polish city on Sunday to protest racist and anti-Semitic attacks in the area. A small counter-demonstration also was held by

people chanting nationalist slogans in the eastern city of Bialystok.

The "March of Unity," which was organized by lawmakers from the governing Civic Platform party, walked in silence from the city center to a monument of Ludwik Zamenhof, a Jewish doctor born in Bialystok, who invented the Esperanto language. The protesters gathered signatures under a manifesto calling for an end to a "wave of thoughtless hatred." On Wednesday, a monument to hundreds of Jews who were burned alive by their Polish neighbors in Jedwabne village during World War II was desecrated. Vandals used green paint to spray a swastika and "SS" — the name of special Nazi German force — on the monument, along with the hostile phrases of "I don't apologize for Jedwabne" and "They were flammable."

Other recent anti-Semitic or racist attacks in Poland have targeted a synagogue in the village of Orla, a Muslim center in Bialystok, and the Lithuanian minority in the Punske region. □

(AP Photo/ Michal Kosci)

Cables sketch oddities of U.S. China relations

MICHAEL WINES

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BEIJING — This capital city's skies were clogged with pollution, as is often the case, and China's government was concerned. So it summoned officials of the U.S. Embassy here to a meeting.

But the session had nothing to do with hazy skies. Rather, Chinese officials were peeved that the Americans were monitoring pollution themselves, and posting their more precise findings, which usually judged the smog far worse than official Chinese readings, on Twitter for anyone to read.

Chinese officials feared the conflicting information "might lead to 'social consequences,'" a U.S. Embassy cable quoted the officials as saying. So could the Americans please block Chinese citizens from visiting the website? That July 2009 cable, posted on the WikiLeaks website on Friday, is one of hundreds from the U.S. Embassy in Beijing that offer a glimpse into the depths, and heights, of relations between the United States and the Chinese government. The cables, involving secret but not very diplomatically delicate correspondence between the two powers, cover topics ranging from China's claims on the South China Sea to the daily exercise regimen that the Chongqing Communist Party secretary, Bo Xilai, designed for himself. Their revelation appears unlikely to ruffle diplomatic relations. But they could lead to serious consequences for Chinese academics, students and others who talked frankly

to U.S. officials, and who are identified, either by name or by precise description, in cables dealing with analyses of Chinese positions.

The New York Times and other newspapers had previously reproduced some of the cables, redacting the identities of people who might be endangered should their names become known. But WikiLeaks, by mistake, later released the entire trove of secret State Department cables that it obtained last year, complete with the names of confidential sources, which were then reposted last week on numerous websites. Among the cables that named confidential sources were analyses of China's social stability, the isolated political position of Premier Wen Jiabao and tensions between China's majority Han population and ethnic Uighurs in Xinjiang, the western region that has been plagued by violence in recent years. Most of those sources' comments were unremarkable. But the fact that they were made to U.S. government officials could draw harsh punishment in some cases. The cables span the tenure of two U.S. presidents and one Chinese, Hu Jintao. A number of them have been previously made public. They describe a crucial global relationship that is warm in some aspects and conspicuously icy in others. One lengthy report on 2009 military talks between the Pentagon and the People's Liberation Army noted that the senior Chinese official, Lt. Gen. Ma Xiaotian, prolonged an hour-long discussion by an additional 30 minutes to attack U.S. arms sales to Taiwan and U.S. military reconnaissance within China's 200-nautical-mile exclusive economic zone. □



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Kurdish legislators push for autonomy in Turkey

SELCAN HACAOGU
Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Kurdish legislators vowed Sunday to press on with a boycott of Turkey's parliament and backed a recent declaration of autonomy in the country's Kurd-dominated southeast.

The defiant stances came as Kurdish rebels killed six people while military airstrikes targeted their hideouts.

The developments underscored the challenge facing the Islamist-oriented government of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan in dealing with the Kurds, even as it has taken some steps to improve relations with the long-marginalized ethnic group that makes up some 20 percent of Turkey's 74 million people.

The European Union, which Turkey is striving to join, has pushed Erdogan's government to grant more rights to the Kurds. But EU countries also have urged Kurdish lawmakers to distance themselves from the rebel Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which is considered a terrorist group by the U.S. and the EU.

The PKK has been fighting for autonomy in the south-east since 1984 and keeps bases in northern Iraq. In July, Kurdish lawmakers and leading activists declared autonomy for that region of Turkey.

During a convention Sunday for the pro-Kurdish Peace and Democracy Party in Ankara, Kurdish legislators complained that the government has made little headway toward resolving the conflict, which has killed tens of thousands of people, and granting Kurds more political and cultural rights.

The Kurdish legislators were elected in June, but they have pledged not to take an oath of office until five pro-Kurdish legislators held on charges of rebel ties are freed.

They also have insisted that another Kurdish politician, Hatip Dicle, whose election was canceled due to a conviction for rebel links, be allowed to take office.

"Democratic conditions were not ripe enough" to end the boycott, said Selahattin Demirtas, a leading member of the Peace and Democracy Party. Parliament is in recess until October.

Another legislator, Gulten Kisanak, said the government should meet the demands for autonomy and allowing Kurdish-language education in schools.

"The right to education in the mother tongue must be recognized as a constitutional right," the pro-Kurdish Firat news agency quoted Kisanak as saying. The Turkish government recently took steps toward wider Kurdish-language education by allowing Kurdish-language institutes and private Kurdish courses as well as Kurdish-language television broadcasts. But the government refuses to allow lower-level education in Kurdish, fearing that it could divide the country along ethnic lines. It also regards the declaration of autonomy as a separatist move and rules out any concessions on the country's unity.

In recent weeks, the Turkish military has carried out airstrikes against suspected Kurdish hideouts in northern Iraq following a series of rebel attacks that killed dozens of soldiers. □

Foreigners complain of harassment by Libya rebels

HADEEL AL-SHALCHI
KARIN LAUB

Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — A Ghanaian teacher cowers in his house, certain he will be grabbed at a checkpoint because of his dark skin.

Armed rebels detain 19 Ukrainian cooks and oil workers for several days on unsupported claims that they are really snipers for Moammar Gadhafi.

They're among thousands of foreigners caught in a web of suspicion as rebel fighters pursue the remnants of Gadhafi's forces. Gadhafi hired some foreigners as mercenaries, but many others held ordinary jobs in Libya, and the rebels who ousted the Gadhafi regime from most of Tripoli last month often seem to make little effort to tell them apart.

"How can we be snipers?" cook Maksim Shadrov asked angrily at a training center for oil workers in Tripoli where he, his wife and 17 other Ukrainians



An unidentified woman, part of a group of people of Somali origin who are suspected of being mercenaries for Moammar Gadhafi waits as they are held in the Tripoli Oil institute building by the Libyan rebel Zentan Al Kakaa Brigade in Tripoli, Libya, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011 prior to being released to the custody of the UNHCR refugee agency.

(AP Photo/Francois Mori)

were being held.

"They are old. She is a woman.

We are not snipers," he said, pointing to some members of his group. Even a rebel commander conceded that he had no evidence to the contrary, but held them nonetheless, despite a diplomat's efforts to free them.

In rebel-run Tripoli, people with dark skin — even Libyans — are at risk because Gadhafi is known to have recruited soldiers from sub-Saharan Africa.

"Every black is a target," said Tony Biney, the Ghanaian teacher, who stayed home with his wife for two weeks before risking a trip to church. □

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In Libya, migrants a target for rebels' suspicion

DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK
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TRIPOLI, Libya — As rebel leaders pleaded with their fighters to avoid taking revenge against "brother Libyans," many rebels are turning their wrath against migrants from sub-Saharan Africa, imprisoning hundreds for the crime of fighting as "mercenaries" for Moammar Gadhafi without any evidence except the color of their skin.

Many witnesses have said that when Gadhafi first lost control of Tripoli in the earliest days of the revolt, experienced units of dark-skinned fighters apparently from other African countries had arrived in the city to help subdue it again. Since Western journalists began arriving in the city a few days later, however, they have found no evidence of such foreign mercenaries. Yet in a country with a long history of racist violence, it has become an article of faith among supporters of the Libyan rebels that African mercenaries pervade the loyalists' ranks. And since Gadhafi's fall from power, the hunting down of people suspected of being mercenaries has become a major preoccupation.

Human rights advocates say the rebels' scapegoating of blacks here follows a similar campaign that ultimately included lynchings after rebels took control of the eastern city of Benghazi more than six months ago. The recent roundup of Africans, though, comes at a delicate moment when the new provisional government is trying to establish its credibility. Its treatment of the detainees is emerging as a pivotal test of both the provisional government's

commitment to the rule of law and of its ability to control its thousands of loosely organized fighters. And it is also hoping to entice back the thousands of foreign workers needed to help Libya rebuild.

Many Tripoli residents — including some local rebel leaders — now often use the Arabic word for "mercenary"

ing to surrender their weapons.

The detentions reflect "a deep-seated racism and anti-African sentiment in Libyan society," said Peter Bouckaert, a researcher with Human Rights Watch who visited several jails. "It is very clear to us that most of those detained were not soldiers and have never

prisoners, all African migrants but one. "We have no water in the bathroom!" one prisoner shouted to a guard. "Neither do we!" the guard replied. Most of the city has been without running water to bathe, flush toilets or wash clothes since a breakdown in the water delivery system around the time that Gadhafi fled. But

to go out in the streets." But the "foreign fighters," he said, were more dangerous. "Most of them deny they were doing it," he said, "but we found some of them with weapons."

A guard chimed in: "If we release the mercenaries, the people in the street will hurt them."

In the crowded prison hangar, in the neighborhood of Tajura, the rebel commander Abdou Shafi Hassan, 34, said they were holding only a few dozen Libyans — local informers and prisoners of war — but kept hundreds of Africans in the segregated pen. On a recent evening, the Libyan captives could be seen rolling up mats after evening prayers in an outdoor courtyard just a short distance from where the Africans lay on the concrete floor in the dark.

Several said they had been picked up walking in the streets or in their homes, without weapons, and some said they were dark-skinned Libyans from the country's southern region. "We don't know why we are here," said Abdel Karim Mohamed, 29.

A guard — El Araby Abu el-Meida, a 35-year-old mechanical engineer before he took up arms in the rebellion — almost seemed to apologize for the conditions. "We are all civilians, and we don't have experience running prisons," he said. Most of the prisoners were migrant farm workers, he said. "I have a Sudanese worker on my farm and I would not catch him," he said, adding that if an expected "investigator" concluded that the other black prisoners were not mercenaries they would be released. □



Libyan rebel fighters hold two African prisoners at a former Libyan intelligence building Tripoli, Aug. 31, 2011. Libyan rebels have imprisoned hundreds of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa, accusing them of being mercenaries for Col. Moammar Gadhafi without any evidence.

(Moises Saman/The New York Times)

ies" or "foreign fighters" as a catchall term to refer to any member of the city's large underclass of African migrant workers. Makeshift rebel jails around the city have been holding African migrants segregated in fetid, sweltering pens for as long as two weeks on charges that their captors often acknowledge to be little more than suspicion. The migrants far outnumber Libyan prisoners, in part because rebels say they have allowed many Libyan Gadhafi supporters to return to their homes if they are will-

held a gun in their life."

In a dimly lighted concrete hangar housing about 300 glassy-eyed, dark-skinned captives in one neighborhood, several said they were as young as 16. In a reopened police station nearby, rebels were holding Mohamed Amidu Suleiman, a 62-year-old migrant from Niger, on allegations of witchcraft. To back up the charges, they produced a long loop of beads they said they had found in his possession.

He was held in a segregated cell with about 20 other

the stench, and fear, of the migrants was so acute that guards handed visitors hospital masks before they entered their cell.

Outside the migrants' cage, a similar number of Libyan prisoners occupy a less crowded network of rooms. Osama el-Zawi, 40, a former customs officer in charge of the jail, said his officers had allowed most of the Libyan Gadhafi supporters from the area to go home. "We all know each other," he said. "They don't pose any kind of threat to us now. They are ashamed




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‘Lone wolf’ terror seen as biggest threat

DAVID RISING
Associated Press
HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — After 9/11, it was the men who went to radicalized mosques or terror boot camps who were seen as the biggest terror threat. Today, that picture's changed: Authorities are increasingly focusing on the lone wolf living next door, radicalized on the Internet — and plotting strikes in a vacuum.

The March fatal shooting of two American airmen in Frankfurt by a Kosovo Albanian. The bomb plot on Fort Hood, Texas, soldiers — possibly inspired by the 2009 shooting rampage on the Texas Army post. The foiled attack on Fort Dix, New Jersey, by a tiny cell of homegrown terrorists. These Islamic terror plots share something in common with Anders Behring Breivik, the Norway killer who hated Muslims. They are the work of extremists who are confoundingly difficult to track because they hardly leave a trace.

In today's transformed security landscape, authorities and experts say, the 9/11 plotters would surely have been caught. It's widely believed that these days there's no way a cell involving 19 hijackers and an extensive support network could have plotted attacks in a Hamburg mosque, trained in terrorist camps in Afghanistan, and took flight lessons in the United States without being picked up by counterterror operations.

And President Barack Obama said in a CNN interview on Aug. 16 that a “lone wolf” terror attack in the U.S. is more likely than a major coordinated effort like the Sept. 11 attacks.



Police investigate the scene after 21-year-old Kosovo Albanian Arid Uka gunned down two American airmen on the bus outside Frankfurt airport, Germany. According to the indictment, Uka was radicalized over time by jihadist propaganda he saw on the Internet, and the night before the act had watched a video that purported to show American atrocities in Afghanistan but it was actually a clip from a film. The investigation turned up no connections with any terrorist organization.

Western authorities have infiltrated major jihadist groups, planting moles, eavesdropping on chatter, keeping tabs on radical mosques, and carrying out regular terror sweeps. Some say the tough measures have eroded civil liberties. But lone wolves or small homegrown cells that blend into the general population present a more slippery challenge.

“The biggest threats are people working alone or in very small groups,” a senior German intelligence official told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

“So it's not important whether we have 40 or 50 or 60 followers of the jihad (under observation) ... that doesn't really make much of a difference. The question is are there some that we don't know but who

are planning it?”

Modern technology is also making things harder for authorities.

As extremists adapt to the anti-terror crackdown, they have taken more advantage of the Internet to cloak their communications and recruit new attackers.

“Before, people were recruited in mosques where you'd hear speeches — Finsbury Park or Baker Street” in London, French anti-terrorism judge Marc Trevidic told the AP. “Then that totally stopped. Today, there is not a single case where group members weren't recruited on the Internet.”

“The ability to self-indoctrinate online is a big concern, because not being in a group complicates our task of surveillance,” he said. A terrorist group, he said, “is easier to moni-

(AP Photo/Michael Probst, File)

tor, moves around and has meetings.”

That's what led to the first successful attack on German soil by an Islamic ex-

tremist, in which a 21-year-old Kosovo Albanian allegedly gunned down two American airmen outside the Frankfurt airport in March.

Arid Uka, a 21-year-old Kosovo Albanian who grew up in Frankfurt is accused of opening fire at the city's airport on a busload of U.S. airmen on their way to Afghanistan, killing two and injuring two others.

According to the indictment, Uka was radicalized over time by jihadist propaganda he saw on the Internet, and the night before the act had watched a video that purported to show American atrocities in Afghanistan; it was actually a clip from a film. The investigation turned up no connections with any terrorist organization.

“He was a single person acting alone radicalized through jihadi Internet propaganda,” prosecutors' spokesman Marcus Koehler told the AP at the time of the indictment. □

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Jesus daily on Facebook nurtures highly active fans

JENNIFER PRESTON
© 2011 New York Times

A North Carolina diet doctor has come up with a formula to create the most highly engaged audience on Facebook in the world, far surpassing marketing efforts by celebrities and sports teams. He draws on the words of Jesus and posts them four or five times a day.

The doctor, Aaron Tabor, 41, grew up watching his father preach at churches in Alabama and North Carolina, and his Facebook creation is called the Jesus Daily. He started it in April 2009, he said, as a hobby shortly after he began using Facebook to market his diet book and online diet business that includes selling soy shakes, protein bars and supplements.

For the last three months, more people have "Liked," commented and shared content on the Jesus Daily than on any other Facebook page, including Justin Bieber's page, according to a weekly analysis by All-Facebook.com, an industry blog. "I wanted to provide people with encouragement," said Tabor, who keeps his diet business on a separate Facebook page. "And I thought I would give it a news spin by calling it daily."

Facebook and other social media tools have changed the way people communicate, work, find each other and fall in love. While it's too early to say that social media have transformed the way people practice religion, the number of

people discussing faith on Facebook has significantly increased in the last year, according to company officials.

connections with members. What is new is that millions of people are also turning to Facebook pages, like the Jesus Daily, created by

Manchester United, Joyce Meyer Ministries is in the top 20, along with another page devoted to Jesus Christ, and the Spanish-lan-

portunity," he warned Roman Catholics that "virtual contact cannot and must not take the place of direct human contact with people at every level of our lives." The Rev. Henry G. Brinton, senior pastor of the Fairfax Presbyterian Church in Fairfax, Va., who writes a blog and whose church uses Facebook, said that it was important for people to gather to "experience the physical sensation of water in Baptism, the chance to hold hands in a service of worship or greet one another in the passing of the peace."

That's not possible through online worship alone, he said. "I am not saying there isn't value to the connections that get made through social networking. But they can never replace the importance of people being together physically in the service of worship."

Perhaps the biggest opportunity for religious leaders and institutions is finding and keeping new members, according to the Rev. Kenneth Lillard, author of "Social Media and Ministry: Sharing the Gospel in the Digital Age." He said Facebook and other social media tools, including Google Plus, YouTube and Twitter, represented the best chance for religious leaders to expand their congregations since the printing press helped Martin Luther usher in the Protestant Reformation. "I am looking at social media doing the same thing for today's church," said Lillard, a Baptist minister from Maryland. □



Rabbi Laura Baum, of the Congregation Beth Adam, in the broadcast studio inside the synagogue in Loveland, Ohio, Aug. 2, 2011. Baum said the center had reached thousands of people around the world and significantly expanded the number of people participating in Shabbat services on Friday evenings. They offer readings and services via live videos on Facebook.

(Mark Lyons/The New York Times)

Overall, 31 percent of Facebook users in the United States list a religion in their profile, and 24 percent of users outside the United States do, Facebook says. More than 43 million people on Facebook are fans of at least one page categorized as religious.

Much of the conversation on social platforms is fostered by religious leaders, churches, synagogues and other religious institutions turning to Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to attract followers and strengthen

people unaffiliated with a religious leader or specific house of worship.

With 8.2 million fans, the Jesus Daily counted 3.4 million interactions last week, compared with about 630,000 interactions among Justin Bieber's 35 million fans, the AllFacebook.com analysis shows. The Bible Facebook page, run by the United Bible Societies in Reading, England, has 8 million fans and also beat Bieber with about a million interactions. Amid pages for Lady Gaga, Texas Hold'em Poker and

guage page Dios Es Bueno, or God Is Great. And Facebook got its first Bible-themed game recently, the Journey of Moses.

But the increase in the number of people finding faith communities via social media platforms provokes the question of what constitutes religious experience and whether "friending" a church online is at all similar to worshipping at one.

Although Pope Benedict acknowledged in a recent statement that social networks offered "a great op-



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On Aruba's sister island Curacao, Stevie Wonder Croons Beyonce for Birthday



CURACAO - There are few renditions of the happy birthday song more memorable than Stevie Wonder's. Saturday night, the legend dedicated his iconic version of the tune to two special people who share the same birthday—son Kailand and legend in her own right Beyoncé Knowles.

Though Bey did not attend the performance, Wonder wished a happy birthday to his son who joined him on stage and the newly-announced mom-to-be before launching into a Caribbean-inspired version of his classic jam at the Curaçao North Sea Jazz Festival. The second edition of the Curaçao North Sea Jazz Festival was an absolute success. World famous artists performed at the Curaçao World Trade Centre (WTC) this past weekend. Stevie Wonder, Branford Marsalis Quartet, Chic, Sting and many more. De line up for the Curaçao North Sea Jazz was totally mpressive.

A total of sixteen musicians performed on the three stages at the WTC this Friday



and Saturday night. More than 8000 tickets were sold to people from abroad with 20.000 being sold in total. After Jam Session

Local and international artists gathered last year after the North Sea Jazz in the lobby of the Renaissance Hotel after the festi-

val. In the lobby they gave a great performance together for visitors of the After Jam Session. Renaissance Hotel had the honor

to host this wonderful event again this year. The Jam Session took place in a relaxed atmosphere and artists are free to improvise. □



Ban Ban is looking for friends and family

We would like to introduce Ban Ban to you, one of the donkeys living at the Aruban Donkey Sanctuary. He is probably the best-known donkey on the island, because whenever there is some activity going on, Ban Ban is taking the spotlight. He is also the first donkey of the sanctuary.

Born in 1994, he got boiling water thrown all over his back. The children, who did that, thought it was a big joke. Volunteer Ramon took Ban Ban home to take care of; the sanctuary was not there yet. To prevent similar horrible incidents, the volunteers of the sanctuary decided to start a youth club, which has as its goal to teach children respect for animals and to take responsibility for their deeds. Throughout the years many children have learned that they can expect a lot of love and fun from animals in return.

This beautiful donkey has been provided with a chip, just like all the other donkeys. On the chip is information about the donkey and its medical history. The donkeys at the sanctuary have a lot of friends with whom they can play all day long. And they love living there: they are well-cared for, they are fed and watered and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers for the sanctuary.

The volunteers are trying to cover the various costs with all kinds of activities and the sale of great donkey memorabilia in the shop. Fortunately, there are also visitors who wish to adopt a donkey, who buy something at the donkey shop or who make a donation. Thus they help support us. Everyone is welcome to visit the sanctuary, which has opening hours



from 9 am until 4 pm and in the weekend from 10 am until 3. Entry is free of charge and one can enjoy a soft drink, a cup of coffee or a refreshing ice cream.

The volunteers of the sanctuary are hoping that somebody will adopt this friendly, lovely donkey. Of course the donkey will keep on living at the sanctuary; you only need to pay AWG. 30,- per month for the donkey's keep.

With this amount you help support the sanctuary as well as your own donkey. And you will receive a beautiful certificate and a super T-shirt and your name and photo will be posted on our website. So please call the sanctuary at 593-2933; you can also register via the website www.arubandonkey.org or donate money on bank account number 40.03.025 at the Aruba Bank! Just do it! □

Guests honored at the Renaissance Ocean Suites

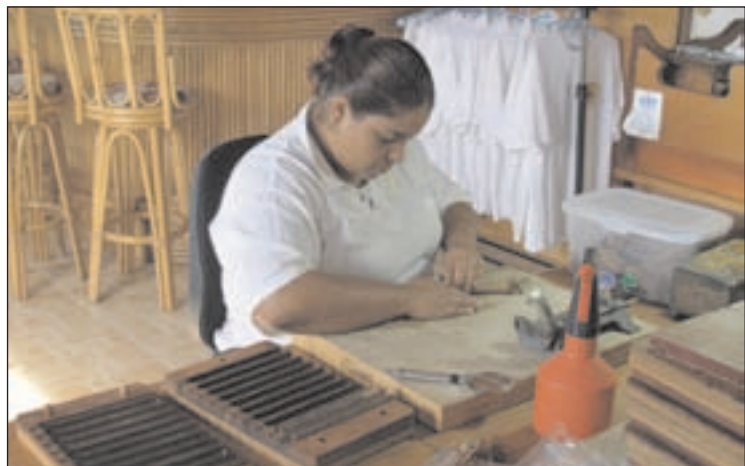


ORANJESTAD - Recently a group of loyal visitors from Aruba were honored as distinguished visitors and ambassador of goodwill of Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for between ten or more and 20 or more consecutive years.

All of the honorees are members of the Renaissance Ocean Suites and has been coming to Aruba for over 10 consecutive years and one of them for 40 years.

The honorees are Mr. James and Mrs. Cindy MC Gowam, Mr. Jim and Mrs. Gail Flammia and Mr. Kenneth and Mrs. Gail Morrison they all received the Distinguished Visitor certificates and Mrs. Raquel Hernandez received her Ambassador of Goodwill certificate. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Linda Brokke from the Renaissance Ocean Suites. □

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till

8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores.

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Aruba hosts Brazilian travel agents

ORANJSTAD – Recently, a group of travel agents from Brazil came to Aruba to get to know the island and experience all that Aruba has to offer. The agents were each from different cities like Sao Paulo, Campinas, and Porto Alegre.

The Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort & Casino hosted the group and was taken care of by Director of Sales Magali Meza. They enjoyed a fabulous group dinner in the Sea Breeze Restaurant on the beach at the Holiday Inn. The agents enjoyed a program filled with island fun and activities together with De Palm Tours. □



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Westin launches Associate Enrichment Program



PALM BEACH - Recently, a new program was rolled out during a seminar held for all Associates of the Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba. The Associate Enrichment Program synergizes with the brand's mission to contribute to the overall well-being of their guests. The success of the resort is directly related to its Associates, as "positive guest experiences are only possible through the impact of its associates," which creates a mission for Westin to "strive to be a great place to work, with satisfied, engaged associates empowered to serve guests."

The Associate Enrichment Program ties in with many of the Westin's signature guest programs, inspiring Associates to make healthy choices to be at their best at home and at the resort. During a fun and interactive event, the programs were introduced to the Associates. WestinWORKOUT is a program that helps guests maintain their exercise routines while traveling. For associates, the program is about developing, maintaining, or enhancing fitness routines. During the rollout, pre and post workout stretches were demonstrated. SuperFoods is another program initiative that educates Associates on wholesome foods that contain an exceptionally high nutrient content when compared to the amount



of calories per serving (like apples, avocado, broccoli, spinach, garlic, walnuts, and dark chocolate). Westin's culinary team prepared a few dishes that included some of these foods to give Associates some ideas on how to incorporate these healthy ingredients into their daily diet. Westin was the first major hotel brand recognized for its conversion to a smoke-free environment. This Westin initiative, called "Breathe,"

also provides associates with a smoke-free working environment. Using Breathe as an inspiration the resort will continue to engage associates in what everyone can do to contribute to the environment, identifying ways to conserve energy, reduce, reuse, and then recycle when and wherever possible. Pictured here are Associates enjoying the interactive rollout of the new program. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Tossed Out

Texas Rangers relief pitcher Koji Uehara, of Japan, tosses the ball to first to get out Boston Red Sox's Mike Aviles to end the game during the ninth inning of the Rangers' 11-4 win in a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011.

(AP Photo/Winslow Townson)
Page 18



Rangers power past Red Sox 11-4



Boston Red Sox starting pitcher John Lackey throws while trying to get out Texas Rangers' Endy Chavez on a bunt during the fifth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011. Lackey threw the ball away on the play and was charged with an error.

(AP Photo/Winslow Townson)

Continued from Page 17

BOSTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers piled on seven runs in the sixth inning and went on to beat the Boston Red Sox 11-4 on Sunday, maintaining their 3-1/2 game buffer atop the American League West standings. Josh Hamilton capped the big sixth with a bases-loaded triple as the visitors opened a 9-0 lead and ended the night for Boston starter John Lackey (12-11). Ian Kinsler homered, drove in three runs and made a stellar defensive play for the Rangers, who took two of three in a vital weekend series.

Texas starter Matt Harrison (11-9) allowed two runs in seven innings. Boston fell 1-1/2 games behind New York in the AL East standings.

Yankees 9, Blue Jays 3

In New York, Derek Jeter tied a career high with five RBIs as New York completed a three-game sweep of Toronto.

Jeter, Alex Rodriguez and Nick Swisher all homered for the AL East leaders, while C.C. Sabathia (19-7) struck out 10 in 7 1-3 innings

to win his seventh consecutive start against Toronto. One big reason for that success: Sabathia has dominated Blue Jays slugger Jose Bautista. The major league home run leader is 0 for 18 with eight strikeouts against the lefty after going hitless in three tries Sunday. Bautista did hit a colossal homer off Rafael Soriano in the eighth. Brett Cecil (4-8) went six innings for the Blue Jays.

Angels 4, Twins 1

In Anaheim, Joel Pineiro posted his first victory in almost two months, leading Los Angeles to victory in the deciding game of the weekend series against Minnesota.

Pineiro (6-6) allowed one run over seven innings. Making his third start since a brief demotion to the bullpen, he turned around his form, having had a whopping 10.30 ERA in his previous six starts.

Bobby Abreu homered for the Angels, who are getting little help in their quest to run down Texas.

Twins starter Kevin Slowey (0-4) allowed seven hits in seven innings.

Rays 8, Orioles 1

In St. Petersburg, Jeremy Hellickson threw a complete game to guide Tampa Bay past Baltimore. Hellickson (12-10) has two complete games this season, both against the Orioles.

Reid Brignac had three RBIs for Tampa Bay, while Sean Rodriguez hit a two-run homer with two outs in the second.

Baltimore starter Jeremy Guthrie (6-17) gave up seven runs over five innings en route to his major league-worst 17th loss.

Indians 9, Royals 6

In Kansas City, Shelley Duncan had a career high five RBIs with a pair of homers into the gusting wind, powering Cleveland past Kansas City.

Duncan hit a three-run homer in the sixth inning and a two-run shot in the eighth for his third career multihomer game. Asdrubal Cabrera returned to the lineup to drive in two more runs while Jason Donald and Jerad Head also had RBIs for the Indians, who notched their 70th win, surpassing last year's total, as they try to keep pace with Detroit in the AL Central. □

Russia faces tough test vs. Ireland in Euro 2012

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia needs a victory when it hosts Ireland on Tuesday to ensure it remains atop the tightest qualifying group for the European Championship.

on Tuesday — we need points." Russia will have center back Sergei Ignashevich returning from suspension but will be without suspended midfielder Igor Denisov.



Russia's Vasili Berezutski, right, battles for a ball with Macedonia's Goran Pandev during their Euro 2012 Group B qualifying soccer match in Moscow, Russia, Friday, Sept. 2, 2011. Russia needs a victory when it hosts Ireland on Tuesday to ensure it remains atop the tightest qualifying group for the European Championship.

(AP Photo/Misha Japaridze)

Russia was criticized for wasted opportunities in Friday's 1-0 win over a young Macedonian team and faces a much tougher test against the Irish, who have not conceded a goal in their last six matches.

Russia is two points ahead of Ireland and Slovakia, which share second place with 14 points from seven games in Group B.

"It will be a different match compared to the one with Macedonia," Russia and Arsenal midfielder Andrei Arshavin said. "The Irish players will frequently use long passes. But at the same time they are not accustomed to playing on the artificial pitch."

Ireland goalkeeper Shay Given considers that to be "an unfair advantage."

"They're the only team in Europe who play on a plastic pitch," he said.

Russia coach Dick Advocaat was satisfied with the result on Friday and especially how his team played in the second half.

"We saw how we should play," Advocaat said. "We will have a difficult game

"He's an excellent player, a combative defensive midfielder," Advocaat said of Denisov. "But we have other players who can play in this position."

Ireland has a growing injury list ahead of the crunch match, with John O'Shea the latest player to pull out. The versatile Sunderland defender withdrew because of calf and hip strains to join left back Kevin Kilbane (back) and striker Shane Long (calf) on the injury list.

Winger Aiden McGeady and striker Kevin Doyle are struggling for full match fitness after lengthy layoffs while Given is nursing a back problem.

Ireland drew 0-0 with Slovakia on Friday, a blow to its qualification hopes but assistant coach Marco Tardelli remains confident.

"We played against a very tough team — their world ranking is 10 places before us and they are in the same position as us in the table," he said. "The result was not very good for us, but we played very well in the second half. □

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Rugby World Cup comes to small-town New Zealand

STEVE McMORRAN

AP Sports Writer

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) —

From subtropical Kerikeri in the far north to alpine Queenstown in the south, the Rugby World Cup will embrace small-town New Zealand.

New Zealand is, in essence, a nation of small towns; its population is only 4.5 million, 1.3 million of those in its largest city, Auckland.

Strewn across its landscape of rainforests, deserts, white-sand beaches and alpine peaks are a necklace of townships which have become the homesteads of the seventh Rugby World Cup.

Organizers could have housed teams in New Zealand's largest cities, in plush hotel with access to night-life.

Instead, they decided to take the tournament to the people, housing teams in tiny townships which have embraced supporting roles in the world's fourth most-watched sporting event.

Fiji has been based at Ohope Beach, near Whakatane (population 18,000) on the east coast of the North Island. The Fijian players were moved almost to tears when the junior classes of the local primary school welcomed

them to Ohope with songs and dance.

The United States team will be based, for the first part of its stay in New Zealand, at Whanganui on the west

the day.

Whanganui city, population 43,000, has welcomed the Americans who are met with an unaccustomed celebrity in the town's shop-

bearing the legend Wairarapa Loves Georgia (Wairarapa is the province). Georgia players will be billeted with local families — rather than staying at hotels — to

am sure we will."

Russia will be based for a time in Blenheim in the heart of the Marlborough wine-growing region and local vintners have been eager to have the visitors sample their products. That might not be the ideal preparation for Russia's subsequent match against Australia at Nelson on Oct. 1.

The Namibia team was welcomed to Gisborne on the east coast of the North Island, noted because of international time zones as the first city to see the sun rise on each new day. The city of 34,000 was briefly a tourism mecca for the new millennium celebrations 11 years ago.

The Gisborne Herald newspaper welcomed the team from southwest Africa with a Maori greeting on its front page.

Romania landed in earthquake-devastated Christchurch before traveling to their first base at Ashburton in Canterbury province. Romanian-born Violeta Tataru, in national dress and carrying bread and salt — a Romanian tradition — greeted the players.

"It's once in a lifetime that you can have a Romanian rugby team in Ashburton for the Rugby World Cup," she said. □



People play rugby at a park in Dunedin, New Zealand, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011. The Rugby World Cup starts in Auckland on Sept. 9.

(AP Photo/Natasha Pisarenko)

coast of the North Island. Local Maori sought to welcome the team to New Zealand by ferrying them by war canoe from their meeting place along the Whanganui River.

The Americans declined the invitation for safety reasons, then accepted when they realized they had unintentionally upset their hosts, and both groups enjoyed

ping precinct, situated along its single main street. Kerikeri will host Canada, Japan and Tonga at various stages during pool play; Queenstown will welcome England, Georgia, Ireland and Romania. Georgia will also stay in Masterton, a country town 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of the capital Wellington.

Locals have printed T-shirts

better experience their hospitality.

"This is the chance of the whole of Wairarapa to show how delighted we are to have the Georgians on board, and to experience some of the World Cup fever at the same time," events co-ordinator Catherine Rossiter-Stead said. "We want to make it something really special and I

For Nadal, the hard part comes after the match

Karen Crouse

© 2011 New York Times

NEW YORK — In his recently published autobiography, Rafael Nadal paints an unvarnished picture of professional tennis, one that exposes unsightly wrinkles like the friction between him and the loved one who is his coach, and the pain and insecurities and loneliness of the gilded life.

If his book is an all-access pass to a superstar's life, Nadal provided another look at the cold realities of his existence Sunday at the U.S. Open.

After his 7-6 (5), 6-1, 7-5 victory against David Nalbandian in a third-round match played under a noonday sun, Nadal spent nearly 30 minutes answering questions in English, flashing his humor and generally appearing no worse for the wear after the 2:39-long match. He was addressing an inquiry from a Spanish reporter when he suddenly stopped speaking, grimaced and covered his face with his hands. For almost a minute, Nadal sat back in his seat, overcome by pain, before sliding out of the chair as if he were a throw blanket and disappearing behind the interview podium. He remained on the floor for eight minutes while trainers stretched his right leg and brought him ice and Gatorade.

When at last Nadal sat up, he drank water as his back was massaged by a trainer who, in concert with another trainer, lifted him to his feet. Minutes later, he addressed the news media again, this time while standing in front of the podium to avoid further cramping.

"I just have cramping in front and behind," said Nadal, the defending champion. "That's why I was so painful. That's all." In comments he made upon the resumption of his Spanish-speaking news conference, Nadal said, "It was just bad luck that it happened here."

The rough translation: This happens all the time but does not become news until outsiders see it.



Rafael Nadal of Spain competes against David Nalbandian of Argentina in their third round men's singles match during the U.S. Open tennis tournament at Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York, Sept. 4, 2011. Nadal leads after two sets with the score 7-6 (5), 6-1.

(Barton Silverman/The New York Times)



Roger Federer of Switzerland competes against Dudi Sela of Israel during their second round men's singles match at the U.S. Open tennis tournament at Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York, on Sept. 1, 2011. Federer defeated Sela with a score of 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

(Uli Seit/The New York Times)

The agony of victory was also plain to see in the first match at Louis Armstrong Stadium, between Flavia Pennetta and Shuai Peng. Pennetta prevailed, 6-4, 7-6 (6), in 2 1/2 hours despite feeling so poorly in the second set that she was dry-heaving between points. "I was feeling really bad,"

said Pennetta, who reached her third Open quarterfinal in four years. "I think was because it's really humid today. It's hot and you have a lot of emotion." The sun was beating down on Arthur Ashe Stadium a little after 11 o'clock when Nadal appeared on court, eyes squinting and

hair poking out from his blue bandana, looking as comfortable in the morning light as a vampire. He is accustomed to playing at night in New York. On Sept. 4 in both 2007 and 2008 he played two of the latest-ending matches in tournament history, one that ended a few minutes

before 2 a.m. and the other a few minutes after.

Despite trying to go to bed earlier Saturday, Nadal's nocturnal body clock kept its normal time.

"You have to wake up early, but I usually go to bed very late," he said. "I tried yesterday to go early. Didn't work."

Nalbandian, 29, was the more alert player in the early going, extending the rallies into double-digit strokes on several occasions by running Nadal up and back and side to side before moving in for knife-like winners, usually from his backhand side.

Nadal's serve, which was close to impenetrable during his 2010 title run (he was broken only five times the entire tournament), was shaky, as it has been throughout the first week this year. Nadal was broken three times by Nalbandian, whose own serve was no sturdier. He was broken while serving for the first set at 5-4, double-faulting at 15-40. Nalbandian never led in the tie breaker, netting a forehand on the first point to foreshadow his fate. Nalbandian's energy level nosedived in the second set, his drop-off reminiscent of his semifinal match against Andy Roddick, another third-round winner Sunday, at the 2003 Open. After Roddick saved a match point in the third-set tie breaker with a 138-mile-per-hour service winner, Nalbandian won only four more games in the deciding two sets.

He has not advanced past the quarterfinals in seven subsequent appearances while Nadal, who had 22 winners and 18 unforced errors, is in the Round of 16 for the sixth consecutive year. Nadal received medical treatment for a blister on his right foot early in the third set, but appeared to be moving fine once the foot had been retaped. He acted as if everything were hunky dory in his news conference, even winking when he said he decided to write his book "even if I am at the beginning of my career." □



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Dutch chase Euro 2012 spot against Finland

HELSINKI (AP) — The high-scoring Netherlands can virtually secure a spot in next year's European Championship with another victory against Finland on Tuesday. The top-ranked Dutch are coming off their biggest win ever after demolishing San Marino 11-0 on Friday for their seventh victory in as many games in Group E. The World Cup runner-up is six points clear of second-place Sweden with three rounds remaining and with a vastly superior goal difference. While Sweden would theoretically remain in contention for the group win with a high-scoring display of its own against San Marino on Tuesday, the Swedes are more focused on finishing as the best group run-



Dutch soccer player Klaas Jan Huntelaar, center, battle for the ball with goalkeeper Aldo Junior Simoncini and Giacomo Benedettini, right, of San Marino, during their Euro 2012 Group E qualifying soccer match between The Netherlands and San Marino at the Philips stadium in Eindhoven, The Netherlands. The high-scoring Netherlands can virtually secure a spot in next year's European Championship with another victory against Finland on Tuesday.

(AP Photo/Bas Czerwinski)

ner-up to earn an automatic berth to the tournament in Ukraine and Poland. Captain Mark van Bommel said the Netherlands team has to put its rout of San Marino behind it. "Against Finland it is a challenge to refocus after all the euphoria," he said. "Everybody thinks it is going to be easy, but it is not. We still have to play a couple of matches to qualify for the European Championship." Coach Bert van Marwijk will again be missing midfielders Nigel de Jong and Rafael van der Vaart as well as winger Arjen Robben. He is expected to again start Klaas-Jan Huntelaar at center forward and Robin van Persie on the

right wing. The pair slotted easily into the makeshift formation against San Marino with Van Persie scoring four and Huntelaar two. Huntelaar's brace made him top scorer in Euro 2012 qualifiers with 10 goals in seven matches. Finland is coming off a 4-1 win over Moldova which has boosted its hopes of avenging a 2-1 loss in Rotterdam last year. "It will be a nice game," Finland midfielder Kasper Hamalainen said. "If you look back last year's game against Holland we actually played pretty good. We had the chance of scoring 2-2. ... They will want to have the ball but we will also want to have the ball." □

Bolt helps Jamaica win men's relay at Worlds



DAEGU, South Korea (AP) — Usain Bolt powered home to help Jamaica set a world record of 37.04 seconds in men's 4x100-meter relay Sunday at the world championships. Nesta Carter led off the relay and handed to Michael Frater. Yohan Blake, the 100 world champion following the disqualification of Bolt in the final, ran the third leg and handed to Bolt. France finished second in 38.20 and Saint Kitts and Nevis took bronze in 38.49. The United States did not finish. □

ANNOUNCEMENT

Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V., a proud member of the Maduro & Curriel's Bank Group and affiliated with The Bank of Nova Scotia has updated the rates pertaining the following products:

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Co-authored by Aruba's
Carlos Viana, OMD, CCN

Sports medicine hope and hype outpace proven treatment

GINA KOLATA

© 2011 New York Times

Until she tore her hamstring a year and a half ago, Tina Basle ran marathons. Since then, she has been on a desperate search for a cure.

It took her from doctor to doctor, cost her thousands of dollars and led her to try nearly everything sports medicine has to offer – an MRI to show the extent of the injury, physical therapy that included ultrasound and laser therapy, strength training, an injection of platelet-rich plasma (or PRP), a cortisone shot, another cortisone shot.

Finally, in February, she gave up.

"I decided this is never going to heal, so let's get on with it," she says.

And so Basle, a 44-year-old digital media consultant who lives in New York, started running anyway. She has lost a lot of speed and endurance. And, she adds, "the stupid hamstring is really no better."

Medical experts say her tale of multiple futile treatments is all too familiar and points to growing problems in sports medicine, a medical subspecialty that has been experiencing explosive growth. Part of the field's popularity – among patients and doctors alike – stems from the fact that celebrity athletes, desperate to get back to playing after



Tina Basle, a marathon runner who tore her hamstring, runs in New York, July 5, 2011. Basle has sought several treatments and none have worked, and medical experts say her tale of multiple futile treatments points to growing problems in sports medicine, a medical subspecialty that has been experiencing explosive growth.

(Alex di Suvero/The New York Times)

an injury, have been trying unproven treatments, giving the procedures a sort of star appeal.

But now researchers are questioning many of the procedures, including new ones that often have no rigorous studies to back them up.

"Everyone wants to get into sports medicine," says Dr. James Andrews, a sports medicine orthopedist in Gulf Breeze, Fla., and president-elect of the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine.

Doctors love the specialty and can join it with as little as a year of training after their residency, as compared with the more typical two to four years for other specialty training. They see a large group of patients eager for treatment, ranging from competitive athletes to casual exercisers to retired people spending their time on the golf or tennis court.

The problem is that most sports injuries, including tears of the hamstring ligament like Basle's, have no

established treatments.

Of course, some remedies for certain injuries do work: putting a cast on a broken bone, operating to repair a torn Achilles tendon. But patients whose injuries have no effective treatment often do not know that medicine has nothing to offer. And many expect cures. "They watch 'Grey's Anatomy' and think we can do anything," said Dr. Raymond Monto, a sports medicine orthopedist in West Tisbury, Mass. "And to a certain extent, we allow

that."

Added to that is the effect of sports stars and their doctors. Patients "see a high-profile athlete and say, 'I want you to do it exactly the same way their doctor did it,'" says Dr. Edward McDevitt, an orthopedist in Arnold, Md. who specializes in sports medicine.

The result is therapies that are unproven, possibly worthless or even harmful. There is surgery, like a popular operation that shaves the hip bone to prevent arthritis, that may not work. There are treatments, like steroid injections for injured tendons or taping a sprained ankle, that can slow the healing process. And there are fads, like one of Basle's treatments, PRP, that soar in popularity while experts debate whether they help. All this leads Dr. Andrew Green, a shoulder orthopedist at Brown University, to ask, "Is sports medicine a science, something that really pays attention to evidence? Or is it a boutique industry where you have a product and sell it?"

"For a lot of people it is a boutique business," he says. "But are you still a doctor if you do that?"

A THEORY BECOMES A FAD. If ever anyone wanted to know how untested sports medicine treatments come into use, they would need only look at platelet-rich plasma, medical experts say. They joke that it is the perfect example of what is a tried and true path to popularizing a new treatment. It is what Dr. John Bergfeld, an orthopedic sports medicine specialist at the Cleveland Clinic, calls the Orthopedic Triad: famous athlete, famous doctor, untested treatment. □

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Sony shows wearable 3-D personal theater

YURI KAGEYAMA

AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Sony says it will start selling a head mounted display that provides a 3-D theater of music videos, movies and games, targeting people who prefer solitary entertainment rather than sitting in front of a TV with family or friends. Sony Corp. said Wednesday that the 60,000 yen (\$800) "HMZ personal 3-D viewer" is set to go on sale Nov. 11 in Japan, and is planned for the U.S. and Europe, perhaps in time for Christmas, although dates have not yet been set. Resembling a futuristic visor, HMZ, which stands for "head mounted display," is worn like chunky goggles-

and-earphones in one. The footage before the viewer — a music video of a Japanese singer in the demonstration for reporters in Tokyo — is crystal-clear and feels like peering into a dolls house in which a real-life tiny singer is moving. It seems unlikely that most people — or even technology enthusiasts — will want to buy a product that involves sitting alone and wearing a little helmet. The HMZ might not be Sony's long awaited answer to Apple's iPod or iPad but just another quirky device packed with cutting-edge technology that is headed for a limited niche following. A 3-D wearable gaming machine Virtual



A model wears a 60,000 yen (\$800) HMZ personal 3-D viewer during a news conference at Sony headquarters in Tokyo Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2011.

Associated Press



Boy from Nintendo Co., which went on sale in the 1990s, bombed, partly because of the bulky head-gear required as well as the image being all red. Sony's latest product is far more sophisticated. Sony officials said the gadget delivers the immersive experience of a home-theater, or the equivalent of sitting in one of the best seats of a movie theater. The machine, which hooks up to Blu-ray disc players and game machines, is tar-

geting people who want to enjoy movies or games alone.

It is not recommended for people 15 years old and younger because some experts believe overly stimulating imagery is not good for teenagers whose brains are still developing, according to Shigeru Kato, a Sony vice president.

On the plus side, consumers are growing more accustomed to 3-D these days, with the arrival of 3-D TVs and game machines. Kato

noted the most popular movies last year, including "Avatar" and "Toy Story 3," were 3-D.

HMZ uses Sony's own OLED screen, a relatively new kind of display that relays superb image quality and color, compared to the more prevalent liquid crystal and plasma displays used in laptops and flat-panel TVs. Kato said the major challenge had been making a very small display without compromising image quality. □

Facebook to allow further music integration

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Facebook is preparing to bolster the programming tools it offers to licensed music services like Rhapsody, Spotify, MOG and Rdio to make it easier for users of the social network to find out what songs their friends are digging.

The tools won't amount to a unique music service on its own, since Facebook has not negotiated licensing deals with major music companies, according to a person familiar with the matter.

But it will make give Facebook users yet another reason to stick around. Being more aware of what your friends are listening to could make the subscription music plans more attractive. They all offer unlimited listening to millions of new and old tracks on mobile devices for \$10 a month, but they have yet to gain enough traction to replace revenue the music industry has lost from declining CD sales.

The person was not authorized to speak publicly on the matter and declined to be identified.

Facebook is expected to reveal the specific set of tools at its developer conference in San Francisco, called f8, on Sept. 22.

Spokesman Larry Wu said Facebook had nothing new to announce.

"Many of the most popular music services around the world are integrated with Facebook and we're constantly talking to our partners about ways to improve these integrations," he said in a statement.

This week, subscription leader Rhapsody launched a beta version of its integration using Facebook's sign-in tool, Facebook Connect. A Rhapsody customer can now "like" an artist or song, and doing so lets others know in the person's Facebook news feed. Liked artists are synced across both services and Rhapsody subscribers can listen to artists that their friends have liked on Facebook.

But there is no way currently to find out exactly what a friend is listening to at a particular moment, nor can a Facebook friend join in and simultaneously listen to what a Rhapsody user is playing in real time.

Rhapsody spokeswoman Jaimee Steele said the company is "definitely interested" in improving its Facebook tools. "We think that music is a very social experience and we are always looking at ways to enhance that experience," she said.

Swedish new entrant Spotify allows Facebook

friends to access the playlists their friends have chosen to share. Rdio allows people to connect through Facebook, follow other Rdio users and find out what albums they have been listening to the most.

Rdio CEO Drew Larner and MOG spokeswoman Marni Greenberg declined to comment.

Facebook's new tools are an incremental step in getting people to pay for music even if Facebook itself does not stand to gain directly.

So far, subscription plans that offer unlimited song listening have not been popular enough to reverse a decade-long slide in CD sales. Piracy is partly to blame for the decline, as is the popularity of buying singles, such as through Apple's iTunes music store, instead of albums.

Last year, revenue from paid subscription plans fell 5 percent from a year earlier to \$201 million, even though the number of subscribers grew about 25 percent to 1.5 million, according to the Recording Industry Association of America. Including CD sales, downloads and other forms of music, the value of U.S. music shipments fell 11 percent to \$6.85 billion.

The most popular of the subscription services, Rhapsody, has more than 800,000 paying subscribers. □

Unemployed face tough competition: underemployed

CHRISTOPHER LEONARD

PAUL WISEMAN

AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. job market is even worse than the 9.1 percent unemployment rate suggests.

America's 14 million unemployed aren't competing just with each other. They must also contend with 8.8 million other people not counted as unemployed — part-timers who want full-time work.

When consumer demand picks up, companies will likely boost the hours of their part-timers before they add jobs, economists say. It means they have room to expand without hiring.

And the unemployed will face another source of competition once the economy improves: Roughly 2.6 million people who aren't counted as unemployed because they've stopped looking for work. Once they start looking again, they'll be classified as unemployed. And the unemployment rate could rise.

Intensified competition for jobs means unemployment could exceed its historic norm of 5 percent to 6 percent for several more years. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office expects the rate to exceed 8 percent until 2014. The White House predicts it will average 9 percent next year, when President Barack Obama runs for re-

election.

The jobs crisis has led Obama to schedule a major speech Thursday night to propose steps to stimulate hiring. Republican presidential candidates will likely confront the issue in a debate the night before.

The back-to-back events will come days after the government said employers added zero net jobs in August. The monthly jobs report, arriving three days before Labor Day, was the weakest since September 2010.

Combined, the 14 million officially unemployed; the "underemployed" part-timers who want full-time work; and "discouraged" people who have stopped looking make up 16.2 percent of working-age Americans.

The Labor Department compiles the figure to assess how many people want full-time work and can't find it — a number the unemployment rate alone doesn't capture.

In a healthy economy, this broader measure of unemployment stays below 10 percent. Since the Great Recession officially ended more than two years ago, the rate has been 15 percent or more.

The proportion of the work force made up of the frustrated part-timers has risen faster than unemployment has since the recession began in December 2007.

That's because many companies slashed workers'

hours after the recession hit. If they restored all those lost hours to their existing staff, they'd add enough hours to equal about 950,000 full-time jobs, according to calculations by Heidi Shierholz, an economist at the Economic Policy Institute. That's without having to hire a single employee.

is really a long way off," says Christine Riordan, a policy analyst at the National Employment Law Project. In August, employees of private companies worked fewer hours than in July. Some groups are disproportionately represented among the broader category of unemployment that

Ryan McGrath, 26. In October, he returned from managing a hotel project in Uruguay. He's been unable to find full-time work. So he's been freelancing as a website designer for small businesses in the Chicago area. Some weeks he's busy and making money. Other times he struggles. He's living at



Crowds of job-seekers line up at the CBS booth at a job fair at Crenshaw Christian Center in South Los Angeles, where dozens of employers, ranging from supermarkets to the Fox entertainment conglomerate, are accepting applications. Employers stopped adding jobs in August, an alarming setback for an economy that has struggled to grow and might be at risk of another recession.

(AP Photo/Reed Saxon, File)

No one expects every company to delay hiring until every part-timer is working full time. But economists expect job growth to stay weak for two or three more years in part because of how many frustrated part-timers want to work full time. And because employers are still reluctant to increase hours for part-timers, "hiring

includes underemployed and discouraged workers. More than 26 percent of African Americans, for example, and nearly 22 percent of Hispanics are in this category. The figure for whites is less than 15 percent. Women are more likely than men to be in this group. Among the Americans frustrated with part-time work is

home, and sometimes he has to borrow \$50 from his father to pay bills. He's applied for "a million jobs." "You go to all these interviews for entry-level positions, and you lose out every time," he says. Nationally, 4.5 unemployed people, on average, are competing for each job opening. □

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Asian stocks down on dreary US jobs data

PAMELA SAMPSON
AP Business Writer

BANGKOK (AP) — Asia-Pacific stocks took a beating early Monday after jobs data out of the U.S. last week revived fears of a recession in the world's largest economy.

Japan's Nikkei was 1.7 percent down in early trading at 8,797.89. Australia's S&P ASX 200 fell 2.1 percent to 4,154.90. New Zealand's NZX 50 declined 0.7 percent to 3,279.30. South Korea's Kospi Composite Index slid 2.5 percent to 1,821.65.

Companies that count on brisk economic growth to fuel their revenues were hit hard. Japan's Hitachi Construction Machinery lost 4.3 percent. Energy Resources of Australia Ltd. tumbled 4.4 percent.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 2.2 percent lower Friday, wiping out its gain for the week, on the heels of a dismal jobs report.

The Labor Department reported that no jobs were added in the U.S. in August. It was the worst employment report in 11 months and renewed fears that another recession could be on the way.

The lack of hiring in the U.S. last month surprised investors. Economists were expecting 93,000 jobs to be added. Previously reported hiring figures for June and July were revised lower. The average work week declined and hourly earnings fell. The unemployment rate held steady at 9.1 percent. The rate has been above 9 percent in all

but two months since May 2009.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 253.31 points to close at 11,240.26. It was the biggest fall in two weeks. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 2.5 percent to 1,173.97. The Nasdaq composite fell 2.6 percent to 2,480.33.

The sour jobs report comes on top of Europe's debt problems, which are still dragging on. Meanwhile, China's economy is showing signs of slower growth.

Those problems could weaken global demand for many kinds of commodities including oil and metals. Inpex Corp., Japan's leading energy explorer, sank 3.1 percent.

Investors seeking a relatively stable store of value during times of economic turbulence in financial markets have been scooping up gold, sending its price up 50 percent over the past year.

Gold-related shares were among the few posting gains Monday. Australia's Newcrest Mining Ltd., the country's top gold miner, rose 2 percent.

In currencies, the euro weakened to \$1.4165 from \$1.4187 in late Friday trading in New York. The yen weakened to 76.77 yen from 76.72 yen.

Benchmark crude for October delivery slipped 62 cents to \$85.83 per barrel on Monday on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell \$2.48, or 2.8 percent, to finish at \$86.45 on the Nymex on Friday. □

Sign of the times? Summer movie attendance declines again

Byline: BROOKS BARNES
© 2011 New York Times News Service

LOS ANGELES — It was the summer that North American movie attendance continued to slide, Hollywood's reliance on overseas ticket sales intensified,

when 540 million people turned up. Hollywood has now experienced four consecutive summers of eroding attendance, a cause for alarm for both studios and the publicly traded theater chains. One or two soft years can be dismissed

commodate big pictures stacked back to back to back," said Dan Fellman, president for domestic distribution at Warner Brothers. The studio, owned by Time Warner, released two of North America's top three summer movies. Its final Harry Potter installment was No. 1 with about \$372 million in ticket sales and "The Hangover Part II," which took in over \$254 million, was third. "Transformers: Dark of the Moon," released by Paramount, a division of Viacom, was second with about \$350 million in sales. On a global basis, three movies took in more than \$1 billion, the industry's new threshold of smash success. Those films were "Deathly Hallows – Part 2," "Dark of the Moon" and Walt Disney's "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides." However, the old Hollywood power source – star wattage – continued to dim. Audiences still lap up Johnny Depp in the Pirates series, but stars otherwise failed to turn out crowds. Julia Roberts and Tom Hanks flamed out "Larry Crowne." Jim Carrey, who almost seems to be adopting a creepy public persona of late, flopped in "Mr. Popper's Penguins." Harrison Ford and Daniel Craig fell off their box-office horses in "Cowboys & Aliens."

The careers of Kevin James ("Zookeeper") and Ryan Reynolds ("Green Lantern") also cooled off. Three movie companies managed to breathe new life into aging or moribund franchises or seed new ones – Hollywood's equivalent of home runs. □



An undated handout image of Johnny Depp and Kevin McNally in the 2011 film "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides." Hollywood has now experienced four consecutive summers of falling attendance, a cause for alarm for both studios and theater chains.

(Peter Mountain/Walt Disney Pictures via The New York Times)

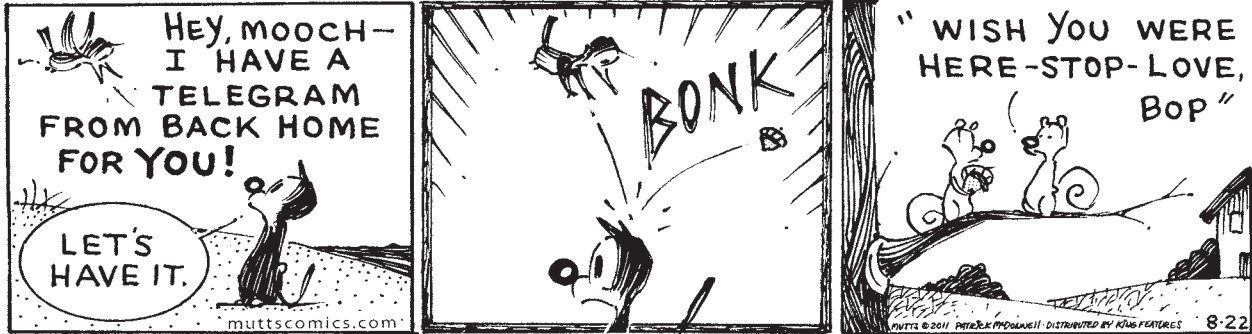
the Smurfs flexed their minuscules and a cadre of A-list stars flopped – again.

From the first weekend in May to Labor Day, a period that typically accounts for 40 percent of the film industry's annual ticket sales, domestic box-office revenue is projected to total \$4.38 billion, an increase from last year of less than 1 percent, according to Hollywood.com, which compiles box-office data. The bad news: Higher ticket prices, especially for the 18 films released in 3-D (up from seven last summer), drove the increase. Attendance for the period is projected to total about 543 million, the lowest tally since the summer of 1997,

as aberration; four signals real trouble.

But there was a silver lining. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part 2," "Transformers: Dark of the Moon" and a spate of superhero films, including "Captain America: The First Avenger" and "Thor," generated enough interest to sharply reduce the box-office hole created by winter flops like "Mars Needs Moms." After the first quarter, ticket sales were down a staggering 20 percent compared with the same period in 2010. Now, sales lag 4 percent for the year. "In an economy that has been unfortunately pretty depressing, the marketplace expanded to ac-

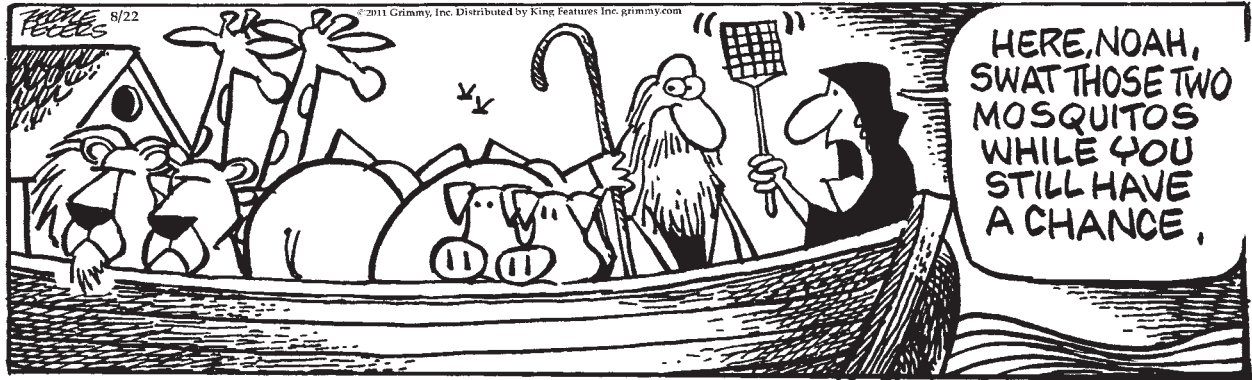
Mutts



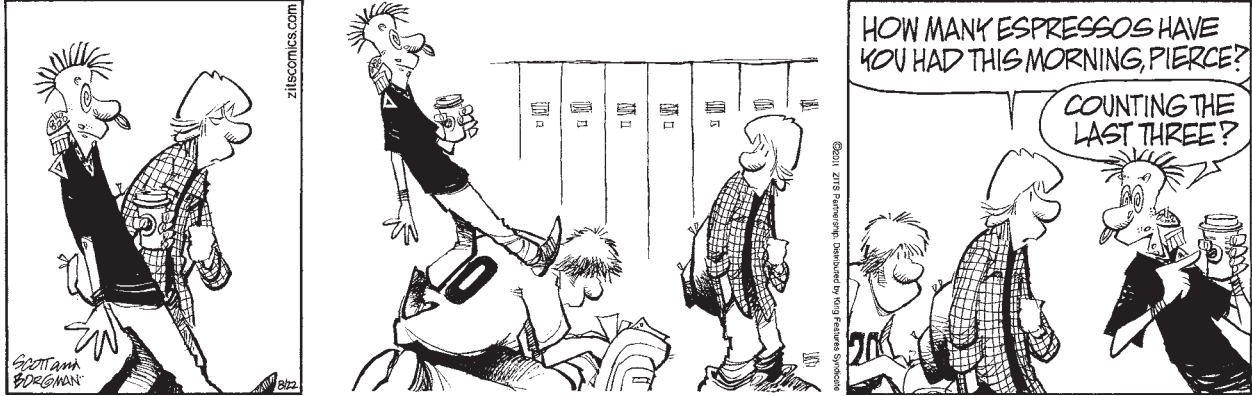
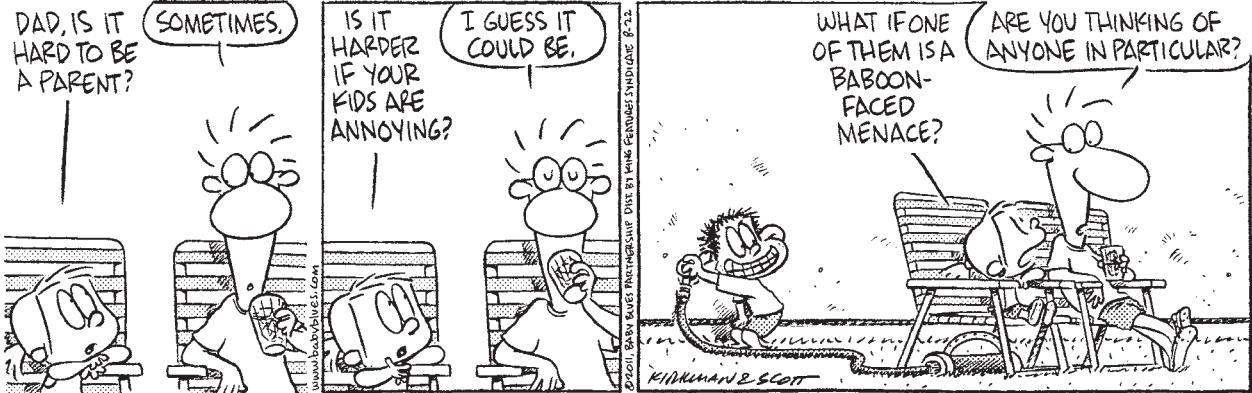
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Blondie



Baby Blues



	4			9	7	6	
8				4		5	
			1	5	6		3
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	9			2		1	
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	1	7	9			2	

Difficulty Level ★

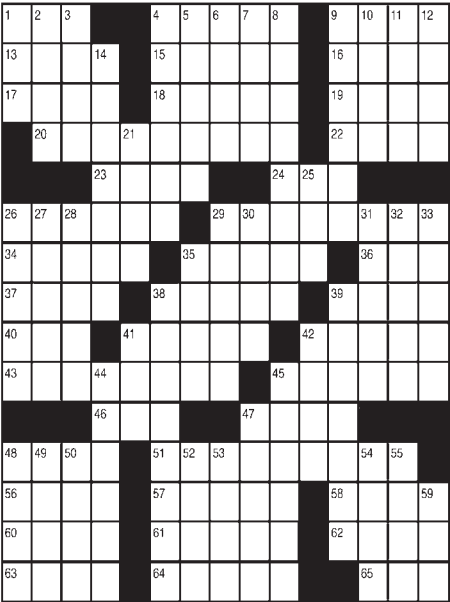
8/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

2	3	7	8	4	6	1	5	9
8	4	9	1	7	5	3	6	2
1	5	6	9	2	3	8	4	7
6	8	5	3	1	9	7	2	4
4	1	2	6	5	7	9	3	8
7	9	3	2	8	4	6	1	5
5	7	1	4	6	8	2	9	3
9	6	8	5	3	2	4	7	1
3	2	4	7	9	1	5	8	6

ACROSS

- 1 Zodiac lion
- 4 Years; longs
- 9 Flip-___; reverse one's position
- 13 Upper limbs
- 15 "Trick or ___!"
- 16 Helper
- 17 Cheese with a whitish rind
- 18 Kid around with
- 19 Cots and cribs
- 20 Oscar or Emmy
- 22 Fall leaf color
- 23 Didn't float
- 24 Hawaiian taro root food
- 26 Enjoy a drink
- 29 Puncturing
- 34 Is the front-runner
- 35 Minister's home
- 36 Greek "T"
- 37 ___ of Wight
- 38 Sarcastic insult
- 39 One of the 12 tribes of Israel
- 40 Inquire
- 41 Corridors
- 42 Caan or Garner
- 43 Reading disorder
- 45 Scuffle; brawl
- 46 Mischievous tot
- 47 Plate
- 48 Pond growth
- 51 Buenos Aires' nation
- 56 Fishhook, for one
- 57 Tales
- 58 Zero
- 60 Malicious
- 61 Wipe away
- 62 Saucer-shaped bell
- 63 Knighted lady
- 64 Nonconformist
- 65 Old horse



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/22/11

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

TASTE	ESPY	SHUN
OCEAN	LURE	HOLE
UNCUT	ADOS	ORCA
RETREATS	MURDER	
URGE	BANTERS	
CHISEL	PANDA	
ROT	DOPES	OGDEN
ABED	WACKY	EURO
GOMER	VASES	EGO
SIREN	MUTTON	
SCEPTER	GENE	
MANIAC	VENDETTA	
ANTS	EPIC	OTHER
CORE	SOAK	WHIST
KEYS	SILLO	NESTS

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8/22/11

DOWN

- 1 Blood analysis site
- 2 Goofs
- 3 Leave out
- 4 Bring into harmony
- 5 Stream
- 25 Crude mineral
- 26 Homer classic
- 27 Unkempt
- 28 Halts & refuses to proceed
- 29 Zahn or Abdul
- 30 Hotels
- 31 Articles
- 32 Belly button
- 33 Pretext; appearance
- 35 African nation
- 38 1040 submitter
- 39 ___ out at; attacking verbally
- 41 Skirt's edge

- 42 Fair; deserved
- 44 Legally responsible
- 45 Shiny stuff on a Christmas tree
- 47 Thickheaded
- 48 Sick ___; too ill to be up
- 49 Volcanic output
- 50 Stern; gloomy
- 52 Unusual
- 53 Snatch
- 54 Lunchtime
- 55 Ballerina ___ Pavlova
- 59 Has ___ on one's face; is humiliated

Today In History

Today is Monday, September 5, the 248th day of 2011. There are 117 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1590 - The Duke of Parma, advancing from the Netherlands, forces France's King Henry IV to lift the siege of Paris in Catholic League War.

1658 - Dutch take Jaffnapatam, last Portuguese possession in Ceylon, the modern-day Sri Lanka.

1698 - New East India Company is granted charter by King William III of England;

Peter the Great executes the Streltzy rebels in Russia and imposes tax on beards.

1793 - The revolutionary government in France starts the 10-month Reign of Terror, during which 17,000 people are executed.

1860 - Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, Russia and Turkey sign treaty to restore order in Syria after massacre of Christians by Druse.

1864 - Combined British, French and Dutch fleets attack Japan in Shimonoseki Straits in reprisal for closing ports and expelling foreigners.

1905 - Treaty of Portsmouth, mediated by U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt in New Hampshire, ends Russo-Japanese War.

1958 - The novel "Doctor Zhivago" by Russian author Boris Pasternak is published in the United States for the first time.

1966 - Chinese news agency claims U.S. planes sunk a Communist Chinese merchant ship and damaged another in the Gulf of Tonkin, killing nine Chinese seamen and wounding seven.

1972 - Eleven Israeli Olympic athletes, four Palestin-



Today is Raquel Welch's birthday

ian guerrillas and a West German policeman are killed in a gun battle at Munich airport.

1975 - U.S. President Gerald Ford escapes an attempt on his life by Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of Charles Manson, in Sacramento, California.

1981 - Iran's revolutionary prosecutor general, Hojatolislam Ali Qoddousi, is the fourth major Iranian official in a week to die in a bomb blast.

1986 - Four gunmen holding hijacked Pan Am jet in Pakistan open fire on passengers, killing 20 and wounding more than 100.

1987 - Israeli jets blast Palestinian guerrilla bases near Sidon, Lebanon, killing 41 people and wounding 60.

1989 - Hundreds of thousands of blacks begin two-day strike in South Africa on eve of segregated elections.

1991 - Soviet lawmakers approve creation of interim government to usher in new confederation of sovereign states.

1993 - Seven Nigerian U.N. peacekeepers are killed in an ambush by Somalis in

Mogadishu.

1995 - American neo-Nazi Gary Lauck is extradited to Germany from Denmark to stand trial on charges of inciting racial hatred and other counts.

1996 - Ramzi Yousef, a Muslim extremist who allegedly masterminded the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, is convicted with two other men of planning to blow up a dozen U.S. commercial airliners.

1997 - Responding to a triple suicide bombing in Jerusalem,

Israel refuses to hand over West Bank land to the Palestinians; Lebanese guerrillas attack an Israeli commando unit in Lebanon, killing at least 11 Israelis.

1998 - North Korea's parliament elects Kim Jong Il to the presidency, completing the communist world's first hereditary succession.

1999 - Tens of thousands of people flee East Timor, terrified as pro-Indonesian militias besiege a U.N. compound and set fire to homes.

2000 - Fierce fighting devastates areas of Jaffna Peninsula, Sri Lanka for a second day, leaving at least 344 people dead, as the government orders a major military offensive ahead of key elections.

2001 - Peru's attorney general files homicide charges against ex-President Alberto Fujimori, linking him to two massacres by paramilitary death squads in the early 1990s.

2005 - Seconds after take-off an Indonesian airliner shakes violently and slams into a bustling neighborhood, bursting into flames and killing over 140 people — many on the ground. □

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Walters' 'View' primed for run at top of ratings

DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — With Oprah Winfrey gone, daytime television is ready for a new monarch. Barbara Walters and the show she invented 15 years ago, "The View," pronounce themselves ready to step up. She may be past 80 now, but would YOU bet against her?



Barbara Walters

The show begins its new

season Tuesday, with New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg as guest. In a muddled daytime picture, "The View" plans to compete aggressively for displaced Winfrey viewers with a more topical feel, aggressive booking of guests and a few pages ripped from Oprah's playbook. "Oprah was the only other show that did some of the things that we did," said Bill Geddie, executive producer. "Quite honestly, some of the people that we might have gotten second, we'll be getting first now."

"The View" has just as much chance as any to become the daytime talk leader. Late afternoon, where Winfrey's show ran across most of the country, is considered a more desired time slot than the 11 a.m. home of "The View." But a big mixture of personalities like Dr. Phil, Ellen DeGeneres, Anderson Cooper and Dr. Oz will now be competing in the afternoon, some of them new to their time slots or new to the business, and none goes in with a huge advantage in the ratings, said Bill Carroll, an expert in the daytime market for Katz Media.

Meanwhile, "The View" is a fixture at its time of day.

"Consistency always works in your favor," Carroll said.

Geddie noted that no 11 a.m. show has ever been the top daytime talk program, and he seems eager for the challenge of changing that.

The time slot was no real prize back in 1996. ABC had a string of failures there before asking Walters to come up with an idea for a show. She thought of presenting a handful of women with diverse backgrounds and opinions, primarily an entertainment show. Still busy at ABC News, Walters appeared only two days a week and asked Meredith Vieira to be moderator, a role now held by Whoopi Goldberg.

Only 60 percent of ABC viewers could see the show at first, and Walters remembers spending much of her first year cajoling station managers across the country to carry it. Now "The View" is seen virtually everywhere on ABC.

"The View" evolved to become more topical and opinionated as the years went on, a progression that is continuing. The Sept. 9 show will feature former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani and focus on the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

Former Vice President Dick Cheney and GOP presidential candidate Jon Huntsman are each scheduled to appear in the first month.

Such guests co-exist with the popular "hot topics" opening segment, where Goldberg, Walters, Joy Behar, Elisabeth Hasselbeck and Sherri Shepherd kick around the day's water-cooler subjects.

Still, Walters cautioned, "We are not 'Meet the Press.'" Not when Kim, Kourtney and Khloe Kardashian are booked for Wednesday. Matthew Broderick, Jennifer Aniston, Demi Moore and Alicia Keys are among other first-month guests. Behar and Shepherd will talk about what it was like for each of them to get married this summer, and the show plans to candidly follow Shepherd's effort to have another child. □

Chastain inspired Pacino's 'Wilde Salome'

COLLEEN BARRY
Associated Press

VENICE, Italy (AP) — Al Pacino's movie "Wilde Salome" is a complicated examination of Oscar Wilde's once-forbidden play about illicit love and revenge.

But his inspiration was simple: Jessica Chastain.

"There is Jessica Chastain, who I really believe is the reason I made the movie," Pacino said Sunday ahead of the film's long-awaited world premier in a side event at the Venice Film Festival.

"As soon as I met her, and saw her, I thought: This is the person to play 'Salome' and I must get her to play it before the world picks up on her — which it has done — and turns her into the next big star."

"Wilde Salome" has been so long in the making that the role was Chastain's first on film. She is, of course, by now a familiar face to moviegoers, having appeared in Terrence Malick's recent sprawling drama "The Tree of Life" and now in theaters with "The Debt" and "The Help."

Chastain said she and Pacino workshopped the play for over a year, in New York and Los Angeles, then rehearsed for a month on stage before filming on a soundstage, which made her very familiar with the character.

"I was always thinking of 'Salome,' and I was taking dance lessons, and everything I could do to try to approach it," she told a news conference in Venice.

The resulting film is a tour-de-force tribute to Oscar Wilde and "Salome," the 1891 play that he originally wrote in French to tell the story of Herod's obsession for his wife's daughter, culminating with Salome's vengeful demand for the head of John the Baptist on a silver platter.

Pacino's "Wilde Salome" defies easy definition, weaving together a documentary on Wilde's life, footage of a reading of the play in Los Angeles and a film version of the play.

"It's not a documentary. It's not a film. It's a much more ambitious and compli-

cated gesture of cinema," Pacino said. "I wanted to make a kind of collage."

The director acknowledged that his ambition left him unsure how to pull the project together — and he let it percolate for long periods. "Wilde Salome" is in the tradition of his 1996 film "Looking for Richard,"

pops up wearing a head-dress and leading a camel through the desert in a "Salome" staging with a completely different cast.

Pacino, the filmmaker, travels to Dublin, London, Paris and New York as he pieces together Wilde's life story, interviewing such figures as Gore Vidal; Wilde's grand-



Actor Al Pacino and actress Jessica Chastain pose during a photo call for the movie *Wilde Salome* at the 68th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011.

(AP Photo/Domenico Stinellis)

a documentary that Pacino said he directed in an attempt to make Shakespeare more accessible to Americans.

But Pacino said "Wilde Salome" is more personal.

"I think there was this idea of creating something that would reveal things about myself, also. Because I interject myself as a kind of goofy guy, or someone who is trying to deal with the process ... the creative process," Pacino said.

Pacino, the actor, appears as "Herod" in both the play reading performances staged at the Wadsworth Theater, with the actors wearing modern clothes, and in the film version, which he said he intends to edit in its own right. He also

son, Merilyn Holland; and Wilde aficionado and fellow Irishman Bono.

Bono also agreed to allow the filmmakers to use for free his 12-year-old song "Salome," which plays as the credits roll.

The most personal revealing moments, however, were when Pacino was shown puzzling through the process.

After watching the first cut, he sat there not saying anything for a few moments, then stood up and announced the crew had more work to do and walked out.

"At one point, I said I wasn't going to look at the movie for five months because I didn't know where to go with it," Pacino said. □

'Contagion' tracks spread of lethal virus

COLLEEN BARRY
Associated Press

VENICE, Italy (AP) — Academy Award-winning director Steven Soderbergh's latest film "Contagion" can be considered a 105-minute public service announcement with a simple message: Wash your hands. Often.

semble cast of disaster films such as "The Poseiden Adventure" and "The Towering Inferno" produced by Erwin Allen in the 1970s.

"Contagion" features Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow, Kate Winslet, Jude Law, Marion Cotillard and Lawrence Fishburne in a fast-paced drama that depicts

velop a vaccine.

"There is a certain amount of conflicting and misinformation, and conspiracy that inevitably makes its way around the world with the same progressive force and the same spread as the virus," said scriptwriter Scott Z. Burns.

Soderbergh said the star



Actress Gwyneth Paltrow, and actor Matt Damon, third from left in foreground, arrives for the premiere of the movie *Contagion* at the 68th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011.

(AP Photo/Andrew Medichini)

Certainly audience members may look more warily at public door handles and subway hand rails after watching, perhaps in a crowded theater, the film about the global spread of a lethal surface-borne virus with a kill rate of about 25 percent.

"It is impossible, once you start thinking about it, to stop thinking about it," Soderbergh acknowledged at a news conference ahead of the film's world premiere out of competition at the Venice Film Festival on Saturday.

"I'm washing my hands a little bit more. But since I showed up in Venice I have been shaking hands, alot. I was on an airplane, which is one of the worst places you can be. This is just the world we live in."

On a filmmaking level, "Contagion" recalls in some ways the great en-

the rapid spread of a lethal virus of unknown origin and with no available vaccine. Damon plays Mitch Emhoff, a father trying to protect his daughter from infection after his wife Beth, played by Paltrow, succumbs to the virus after a business trip to Hong Kong.

Fishburne is Dr. Ellis Cheever, the cool-headed deputy director of the Centers for Disease Control, who dispatches Winslet, Dr. Erin Mears, to Minnesota, where the Emhoffs live, to figure out how fast the virus is spreading. Cotillard is Dr. Leonora Orantes, who heads to Hong Kong.

Law plays a muckraking San Francisco blogger, Alan Krumwiede, whose character provides 12 million unique viewers a day suggestions of conspiracy theories about the virus' spread and government efforts to contain it and de-

cast makes the film with overlapping stories easier for audiences to process.

"You are throwing so many characters and so much information at the audience, that it is very helpful for them to get a reference point to hold onto," Soderbergh said. "There is a reason that movie stars have existed since the beginning of cinema. It's good for the audience."

But while disaster films may come to mind as the virus provokes food shortages, looting and kidnappings — not to mention mass graves in urban America — Soderbergh said he was actually thinking more of "All the President's Men" when he made the movie.

"Scott and I, I think, were interested in making a procedural that was realistic, obviously, in its content, but stylistically also very simple, very clean. □

Mexico reality TV show seeks to spur social action

OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — In a country battered by news of drug violence and corruption, a reality television series is aimed at creating hope and spurring Mexicans to join activists trying to make the nation a better place. Don't expect fame-seeking singers or shrieking arguments in a house full of twentysomethings. "Iniciativa Mexico," or "Initiative Mexico," is more likely to show mothers taking to the streets to demand justice for their slain daughters or youths teaching residents of a poor Mexico City neighborhood how to take advantage of rain water.

The weekly program will feature drama-laden segments about the struggles of Mexico's poor, something rarely seen on Mexican television, where programming focuses mostly on soccer games and soap operas with Cinderella-like story lines. Yet the program brings an American Idol-style glitz to social projects.

The second season starts Sunday with 25 activists who will try to win the audience's support for a top prize of \$2.5 million. Two or three will be voted off each week by viewers who can cast votes by text messages, phone calls or clicks on the show's website. Norma Ledesma, part of the group Justice for Our Daughters in the border state of Chihuahua, said she entered because she wants to bring her support network to more victims of violence and teach Mexicans how to stand up for themselves. "We want people to know their rights so they can feel empowered to demand authorities do their jobs and deliver justice," she said. "The government has to take responsibility. It hasn't because we are submissive and we keep silent, but we can change that."

Ledesma helped found the group that demands justice in the cases of murdered and disappeared women after her 16-year-old daughter went missing and later was found dead

in 2002. The case remains unsolved. Ledesma's initiative is one of 50 that were selected by the show's producers from more than 56,000 proposals submitted this year. She will find out if she is one of the 25 finalists in the show's opening episode Sunday. The audience will see regular citizens, who despite the odds and sometimes dangers, fight to improve life in a country where half the people live in poverty and where drug violence has caused more than 35,000 deaths since 2006.

"It seems that the country is crumbling down, but it's not true. That's not all of Mexico," said the show's director, Tania Esparza. "There are people who are helping to keep this country's heart beating."

Last year, the program showed activists traveling to isolated villages to explain how to end malnutrition or disinfect water, or giving talks or their work against domestic violence. Contestants will have to explain to the audience and a panel of judges that will include some of Mexico's top businessmen and intellectuals how they would use the prize money to expand their projects and reach the largest number of people possible. They will also face challenges such as taking their programs to new communities and recruiting volunteers. The latter, especially, is a tall order in a country that doesn't have a culture of civic participation and volunteering. "There are a lot of people with fear and frustration, but there are also people who don't give up," Esparza said. "We want the audience to see them and say: 'I, too, can be like him. I, too, can do something.'" The show was created last year by Mexico's biggest television networks, Televisa and TV Azteca, and was backed by dozens of media groups that put competition aside as part of the celebrations to commemorate Mexico's 200 years of independence. □

One and done?



MAUREEN DOWD

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WASHINGTON — One day during the 2008 campaign, as Barack Obama read the foreboding news of the mounting economic and military catastrophes that W. was bequeathing his successor, he dryly remarked to aides: "Maybe I should throw the game."

On the razor's edge of another recession; blocked at every turn by Republicans determined to slice him up at any cost; starting an unexpectedly daunting re-election bid; and puzzling over how to make a prime-time speech about infrastructure and payroll taxes soar, maybe Obama is wishing that he had thrown the game. The leader who was once a luminescent, inspirational force is now just a guy in a really bad spot. His Republican rivals for 2012 have gone to town on the Labor Day weekend news of zero job growth, using the same line of attack Hillary used in 2008: Enough with the big speeches! What about some action?

Polls show that most Americans still like and trust the president; but they may no longer have faith that he's a smarty-pants who can fix the economy. Just as Obama miscalculated in 2009 when Democrats had total control of Congress, holding out hope that GOP lawmakers would come around on health care after all but three senators had refused to vote for the stimulus bill; just as he misread John Boehner this summer, clinging like a scorned lover to a dream that the speaker would drop his demanding new inamorata, the Tea Party, to strike a "grand" budget bargain, so the president once more set a trap for himself and gave Boehner the opportunity to dis him on the timing of his jobs speech this week. Obama's re-election chances depend on painting the Republicans as disrespectful. So why would the White House act disrespectful by scheduling a speech to a joint session of Congress at the exact time when the Republicans already had a debate planned?

And why is the White House so cocky about Obama as a TV draw against quick-draw Rick Perry? As James Carville acerbically noted, given a choice between watching an Obama speech and a GOP debate, "I'd watch the debate, and I'm not even a Republican."

The White House caved, of course, and moved to Thursday, because there's nothing the Republicans say that he won't eagerly meet

halfway.

No. 2 on David Letterman's Top Ten List of the president's plans for Labor Day: "Pretty much whatever the Republicans tell him he can do."

On MSNBC, the anchors were wistfully listening to old FDR speeches, wishing that this president had some of that fight. But Obama can't turn into FDR for the campaign because he aspires to the class that FDR was a traitor to; and he can't turn into Harry Truman because he lacks the common touch. He has an acquired elitism.

MSNBC's Matt Miller offered "a public service" to journalists talking about Obama — a list of synonyms for cave: "Buckle, fold, concede, bend, defer, submit, give in, knuckle under, kowtow, surrender, yield, comply, capitulate."

And it wasn't exactly Morning in America when Obama sent out a mass email to supporters Wednesday under the heading "Frustrated."

It unfortunately echoed a November 2010 parody in The Onion with the headline, "Frustrated Obama Sends Nation Rambling 75,000-Word Email."

"Throughout," The Onion teased, "the president expressed his aggravation on subjects as disparate as the war in Afghanistan, the sluggish economic recovery, his live-in mother-in-law, China's undervalued currency, Boston's Logan Airport, and tort reform."

You know you're in trouble when Harry Reid says you should be more aggressive.

If the languid Obama had not done his usual irritating fourth-quarter play, if he had presented a jobs plan a year ago and fought for it, he wouldn't have needed to elevate the setting. How will he up the ante next time? A speech from the space station?

Republicans who are worried about being political props have a point. The president is using the power of the incumbency and a sacred occasion for a political speech.

Obama is still suffering from the Speech Illusion, the idea that he can come down from the mountain, read from a Teleprompter, cast a magic spell with his words and climb back up the mountain, while we scurry around and do what he proclaimed.

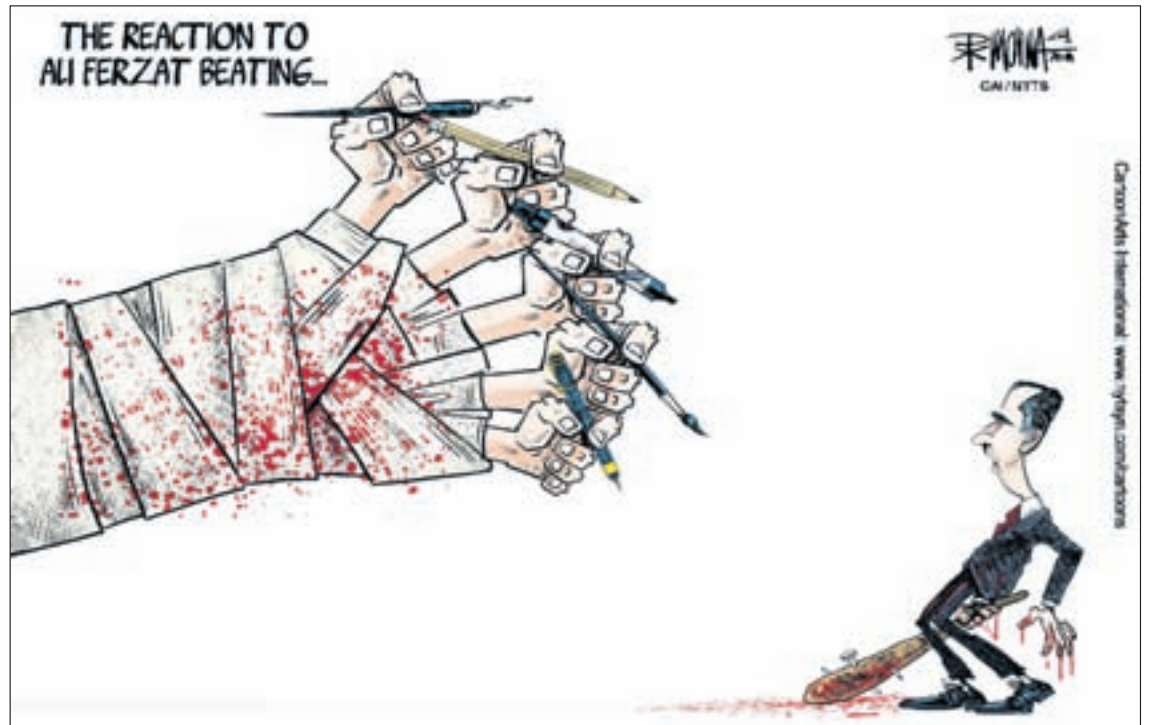
The days of spinning illusions in a Greek temple in a football stadium are done. The One is dancing on the edge of one term.

The White House team is flailing — reacting, regrouping, retrenching. It's repugnant.

After pushing and shoving and caving to get on TV, the president's advisers immediately began warning that the long-yearned-for jobs speech wasn't going to be that awe-inspiring.

"The issue isn't the size or the newness of the ideas," one said. "It's less the substance than how he says it, whether he seizes the moment."

The arc of justice is stuck at the top of a mountain. Maybe Obama was not even the person he was waiting for. □



Pass, fail and politics

FRANK BRUNI

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It's a foolish question, asking how smart a politician is. It's too vague. It ignores all the different wrinkles of intelligence and ways to measure it, along with the debatable link between brain power as it is typically defined and skilled governance in terms of actual results. It's a vessel for prejudices, a stand-in for grievances. And yet it comes back around almost every election cycle, as it's doing now.

Meet Rick Perry. At Texas A&M University, his grades were so poor he was on academic probation. He flunked advanced organic chemistry, which, in his defense, sounds eminently flunkable. He got a C in animal breeding, which doesn't. For a "principles of economics" course, he attained a glittering D, as The Huffington Post detailed. You won't be hearing him mention that much amid all his talk about Texas jobs creation. His academic background, coupled with his rejection of climate change and fondness for gauzy generalities, prompted a story in Politico last week with this subtle headline: "Is Rick Perry Dumb?"

Based on grades alone, it seems so. But by that yardstick, even a politician as outwardly cerebral as Al Gore has some explaining to do. Gore got his very own college D — in a course about man's place in nature, no less. Granted, this was at Harvard. But still. Perry can't dazzle in policy discussions. That's also clear. The farther he ventures from Texas, the smaller he shrinks. When the radio talk show host Laura Ingraham recently tried to get him to say something specific — anything specific — about how America should deal with China, he clung so tightly to banalities that she was forced twice to plead: "What does that mean?"

But he's savvy enough to have assembled a political team and adopted a political strategy that have him leading the (flawed) Republican field in a raft of recent polls. There's something to that. Something more than excellent hair. I'm less troubled by how thickheaded Perry may be than by how wrongheaded we already know he is on issues like evolution, which he says is just a

theory, and homosexuality, which he has likened to alcoholism. President Barack Obama has those issues right. And can talk authoritatively about them and most others. A former editor of the Harvard Law Review, he has that kind of mind, that kind of fluency. In this one poised man, erudition and eloquence join hands. But they don't save him. Last week, he set himself up once again to look like the nation's deferrer in chief by proposing a date for his jobs speech that had the possibility of provoking Republican opposition and did precisely that, at which point he retreated. Is this the Mother-May-I presidency? With John Boehner in the role of paddle-wielding matriarch? That many Republicans will viciously seize any opportunity to defy and undercut Obama is a lesson he should have learned by now. Regardless of who was being unreasonable, it was he who actually ended up sending an email to supporters with the one-word subject line "frustrated." The president of the U.S. is supposed to salve our frustrations, not meekly bemoan his own.

Shouldn't he or someone in his inner circle have foreseen the potential for events unfolding in such a humiliating fashion and made sure to avoid it? Apparently no one did, and that suggests a deficit of smarts by almost any definition of that ludicrously imprecise term. Worse yet, this was only the latest in a long series of questionable calculations.

Was it smart/prudent/pick-your-adjective to lavish all that precious post-election political capital on health care reform rather than economic revitalization and jobs creation, especially if it winds up being the first in a chain of dominoes that leads to defeat in 2012 and the repeal of that precise legislation? Was it smart/prudent/pick-your-adjective not to head off a debt-ceiling showdown by settling the matter during last year's lame-duck session of Congress, before Republicans took the reins in the House? And, during the showdown, didn't Obama and his advisers misjudge both the zeal of some House Republicans and the magnitude of his own powers

of persuasion? Time and again, Obama hasn't been a prescient or brutal enough tactician and hasn't adjusted his high-minded ways to the low-minded sport of congressional politics. That's a failure of some kind, and intelligence may be one word for it. "Is Obama Smart?" the Wall Street Journal columnist Bret Stephens asked in early August. That was the headline, and it's at least as good a question, in terms of the president's political efficacy of late, as the one Politico posed about Perry. That Perry's headline contained the harsher adjective — "dumb" — is typical, say many Republicans, who complain that journalists tend to equate the anti-intellectualism and populist affects of many of their party's candidates with outright stupidity. They cite Ronald Reagan as an example of someone first dismissed as a dunce and understood only later to be wise in some basic, consequential ways. And they say that Democrats get a greater pass on gaffes than Republicans do. There's merit to the argument. But Biden's intelligence is seldom questioned, not the way it would be if he had a Tea Party affiliation and Southern drawl. Weisberg rightly noted the huge flaws with this analysis, including the small sample size and the subjectivity involved in judging achievement. Here's another: What makes Carter more brilliant than Roosevelt — or, for that matter, Reagan?

That assessment reflects a narrow, traditional understanding of smarts as a sort of academic aptitude, a facility with facts and language. But a whole genre of best-selling books over the last decade and a half insist — correctly, I think — that there are various ways to be clever: "Emotional Intelligence," "The Wisdom of Crowds," a knack for gut responses formed in the span of a "Blink." None requires exemplary SAT scores. Instead of talking about how smart politicians are or aren't, we should have an infinitely more useful, meaningful conversation about whether we share and respect their values and whether they have shown themselves to be effective. Someone who rates high on both counts is someone to rally unreservedly around.

Right now, neither Perry nor Obama fits that double bill. □

Obama surveys damage in flood-ravaged New Jersey



President Barack Obama greets residents near piles of belongings destroyed by floodwaters in Wayne, N.J., on Sept. 4, 2011. Obama said on the visit that the government will meet its obligations in aid to those affected by the storm.

(Philip Scott Andrews/The New York Times)

THOMAS KAPLAN

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PATERSON, N.J. — President Barack Obama arrived in New Jersey on Sunday to survey some of the worst flooding from Tropical Storm Irene, while communities in the northern part of the state struggled to clean up the muddy mess left behind from the storm. Obama landed at Newark Liberty International Airport at noon and was greeted by Gov. Chris Christie and Sens. Frank R. Lautenberg and Robert Menendez. He then boarded Marine One to fly northward to survey storm damage, landing at Essex County Airport before heading to flood-stricken Passaic County. One person along his car route held up a sign that pleaded, "Help Us."

In Wayne, a few miles northwest of here, Obama walked along Fayette Avenue, where water-logged dry wall, carpeting and household appliances lined the residential street. Obama stopped to chat with several residents about the flooding, telling one of them, "Just want to let you know we're going to be here."

The president arrived in downtown Paterson around 1:30 p.m. Hundreds of residents lined the sidewalks along Main Street, in



President Barack Obama walks near piles of belongings destroyed by floodwaters in Wayne, N.J., on Sept. 4, 2011. Obama told residents and local officials that "the entire country is behind you," and promised that the federal government would help flood-stricken areas of New Jersey rebuild.

(Philip Scott Andrews/The New York Times)

some places standing several people deep, and the president's motorcade was met with loud cheers as it passed through.

Surveying a bridge over the Passaic River that was damaged by the storm and has not reopened, Obama noted that touring the area "gives you a sense of the devastation that has taken place." He thanked Christie, federal emergency responders and local officials for their care in responding to the

storm, saying that their response "helped avert even greater tragedy."

Obama told residents and local officials that "the entire country is behind you," and promised that the federal government would help flood-stricken areas of North Jersey rebuild.

The president also reassured residents that budgetary wrangling in Washington would not cause a slowdown in federal aid to help people recover from the storm. The House ma-

jority leader, Rep. Eric Cantor of Virginia, and other congressional Republican leaders have suggested Republicans will not support more money for federal disaster aid unless it is first offset by equal spending cuts, a prospect that Obama firmly rejected.

"I want to make it very clear we are going to meet our federal obligations," Obama said. "We're one country."

The White House press secretary, Jay Carney, told reporters aboard Air Force One that Obama chose to visit Paterson because "this was a place he can visit that had particularly severe impacts," The Associated Press reported. Carney added that the president was also keeping tabs on Tropical Storm Lee, which

blocked off parts of Paterson's downtown in preparation for the president's visit, and residents traded theories on where Obama might visit during his time here.

Obama visited here with Christie; Lisa Jackson, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; W. Craig Fugate, the administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and members of New Jersey's congressional delegation. Christie has been a blunt critic of the president in the past, and some Republicans have urged him to run against Obama next year, a call that he has repeatedly brushed off. But Christie has had nothing but praise for the president in recent days, complimenting his administration's focused response to the storm.

"When disaster strikes, Americans suffer, not Democrats, not independents, not Republicans," Carney told reporters on Sunday. "Americans suffer, and then we come together and put politics aside to make sure that those Americans get the assistance that they need."

Obama last week declared major federal disasters in New Jersey, New York and other areas on the East Coast, stretching from North Carolina to New Hampshire, that were hit hard by the storm. On the eve of Obama's visit, FEMA expanded its disaster declaration for New Jersey to allow residents of 16 of the state's 21 counties to apply for individual assistance from the federal government.

Flood-stricken communities have also seen visits in recent days from a phalanx of federal officials, who have seemed determined to convey a level of attentiveness that was notably absent after Hurricane Katrina. Fugate and the federal homeland security secretary, Janet Napolitano, visited here last Wednesday after surveying the flooding in upstate New York earlier in the day. □

made landfall in Louisiana on Sunday.

Paterson, with about 150,000 residents, is New Jersey's third-largest city and was devastated by flooding last week after the Passaic River overwhelmed its banks and submerged entire city blocks. Hundreds of people were evacuated, adding another layer of distress to a struggling city that already was battling high unemployment. On Sunday, orange-and-white plastic barricades